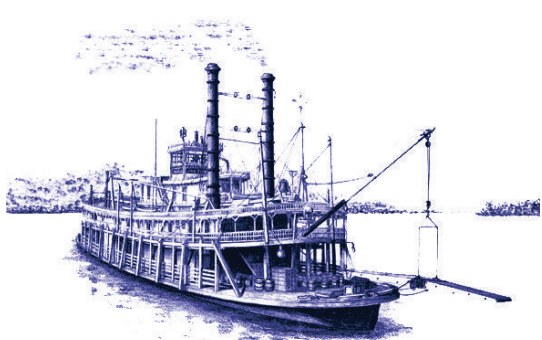


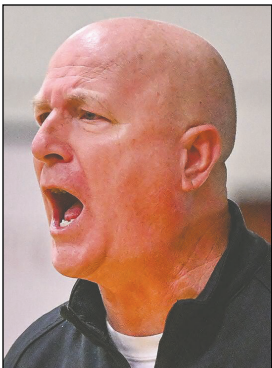


THE MADISON COURIER

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2025

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SPORTS

CARROLL COUNTY'S
ROGER HARDEN
COACHING AT THE
KENTUCKIANA
SHOOTOUT
PAGE B1

Public input sought for Housing rehabilitation grant

BY BOB DEMAREE

Public engagement meetings to discuss the need for an Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Housing Program in the city of Madison will be held in two sessions on Thursday, Jan. 8.

The first session runs 10-11 a.m. and the second 5:30-6:30 p.m., both at Madison City Hall, 101 West Main Street.

Patty Jackson, deputy director

of the Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (SIRPC), said the sessions are part of an effort to obtain a \$350,000 grant from the Community Development Block Grant program.

Jackson said there is a new step in the process to obtain the grant that "we must show support and need before we can move forward."

Those attending the sessions may complete an application for the program or simply voice input

on the need for the program and make recommendations on how the program should be structured.

Jackson said sessions will include a presentation that provides an overview of the program followed by an opportunity to ask questions.

Qualifications for the program include living within Madison city limits, owning and occupying the home, must be insured, must meet income guidelines, home cannot

be in the floodway, and homes in the floodplain must have flood insurance.

Income limits are one person, at or below \$47,500 annual pay; two persons, at or below \$54,350; three persons, at or below \$61,150; four persons, at or below \$67,900; five persons, at or below \$73,350; six persons, at or below \$78,800; seven persons, at or below \$84,200, and eight persons, at or below \$89,650.

Eligible repairs include: Roofing and HVAC replacement, lighting and electrical upgrades; water heater replacement; ADA accessibility improvements and radon mitigation, all at no cost to homeowners.

Persons interested but can't make the meeting may call either Reneisha Rudder or Jackson at 812-689-5505.

Jackson anticipates SIRPC will apply for the grant in February with an award announcement from state officials coming in April.



Bob Demaree

A jumble of massive logs deposited by April flooding covers much of the riverwalk and parts in Lamplighter Park in downtown Madison.

Riverfront zoning local hot topic in 2025

BY BOB DEMAREE

A large number of Madison residents mobilized against a new Riverfront Development zoning district that dominated a good part of the year, making it one of the top stories in the Courierarea for 2025.

In the end, the zoning change was approved 4-2 by Madison City Council following a 6-3 recommendation by the city's Plan Commission. Still, a lawsuit has been filed against the city by property owners whose views would be affected by construction of a proposed apartment building that was primarily at the center of the dispute.

The zoning change allows residential and business infill on the north side of Vaughn Drive over a three block area from Jefferson Street on the west to St. Michaels Avenue on the east — a zone that includes the former Madison Coal Company property now owned by the city at the northeast corner of Jefferson Street and Vaughn Drive and .

The Plan Commission hearing took place before a capacity crowd in the big lecture auditorium at Ivy Tech



Mark Campbell

Members of the audience give Dr. Richard Jones, 92, a standing ovation and wave signs in opposition to a proposed riverfront zoning change after Jones spoke passionately against the measure at the Plan Commission's public hearing at Ivy Tech Madison Campus.

Madison campus where those hoping to get in started lining up more than an hour before the 6 p.m. start.

One of the more passionate pleas was made by 92-year-old Dr. Richard

Jones, a retired veterinarian who said the Madison riverfront is "near and dear to my heart" and that making a

SEE LOCAL/PAGE A3

MPD arrests 6 in drug investigation

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Madison Police have arrested six local residents on various drug possession charges as well as possession of a destructive device, neglect of a dependent, and nuisance charges after serving search warrants obtained as a result of an ongoing investigation.

The investigation began in early December when Madison Patrolman Aaron Watson Jr. received complaints about a nuisance home in downtown Madison with suspected drug use regularly occurring.

The officer began an investigation into the home and was able to develop probable cause to believe that the home contained metham-phetamine and obtain a search warrant.

On Saturday, Dec. 20, 2025, Watson Jr. and a team of MPD Officers executed the search warrant at approximately 6:30 a.m. The search yielded multiple packages of metham-phetamine and a live explosive device. The Indiana State Police Explosive Ordinance Disposal team was requested, and were able to render the explosive safe and remove it from the home.

The six adults arrested included.

• Jennifer L. Rowlett, 54, of Madison for Possession of a Destructive Device and Possession of Metham-phetamine, both Level 5 felonies; and Neglect of a Dependent, a Level 6 felony. Rowlett appeared for an initial hearing on Dec. 23 with bond set at \$5,000 cash.

• Ernest Vance McKeand Sr., 53, of Madison, for Possession of a Destructive Device, a Level 5 felony and Possession of Metham-phetamine and Possession of a Syringe, both Level 6 felonies. McKeand appeared for an initial hearing on Dec. 23 with bond set at \$15,000

cash.

• Robert E. McGaughey III, 38, of Madison, for Possession of Metham-phetamine, a Level 5 felony; Visiting a Common Nuisance, a Level 6 felony; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor.

McGaughey appeared for an initial hearing on Dec. 23 with bond set at \$20,000 cash.

• Hannah Paige Jines, 27, of Madison, Possession of Methamphetamine and Possession of a Destructive Device, both Level 5 felonies; Neglect of a Dependent, Maintaining a Common Nuisance, Possession of Cocaine or a Narcotic drug and Possession of a Syringe, all Level 6 felonies. Jines appeared for an initial hearing on Dec. 23 with bond set at \$25,000 cash.

• Michael Wayne Bowen, 37, of Madison, Possession of Metham-phetamine, a Level 5 felony; Possession of a Syringe, a Level 6 felony; Visiting a Common Nuisance, A Class B misdemeanor; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Bowen appeared for an initial hearing on Dec. 23 with bond set at \$25,000 cash.

• Courtney Danielle Jines, 29, of Madison, Visiting a Common Nuisance, a Class B misdemeanor. Jines has since pleaded guilty and been sentenced to 180 days jail with credit for 2 days jail served and 178 days suspended to supervised probation.

According to a release by MPD, complaints regarding public nuisances and unlawful behavior are investigated and taken seriously. Tips regarding nuisance homes or suspected drug dealing or usage can be reported to the drug tip line at: 833-493-TIPS (833-493-8477). The tip line is operated by the office of Jefferson County Prosecutor David Sutter.



Jennifer L. Rowlett



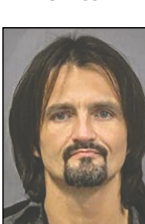
Ernest Vance McKeand Jr.



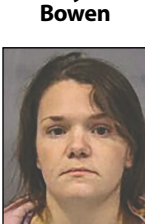
Robert Eugene McGaughey III



Hannah Paige Jines



Michael Wayne Bowen



Courtney Danielle Jines



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Clinton Arnold
Eula Clem
David Gingerich

Karen Jeffery
Anna Jones
Robert Kitson

Charles Marsee
Jane Smith
Roger Taylor



OBITUARY

Anna Etta Davis Jones

Anna Etta Davis Jones, age 95, of Madison, IN, entered this life on Dec. 10, 1930, in Madison, IN. She was the loving daughter of the late William and Willa Mae Taylor Davis. She was raised in Madison, and schooled there. Anna was united in marriage to Rev. Ralph S. Jones on Sept. 15, 1974. She moved with her husband as he ministered several churches throughout the mid-west. Such areas included, Bloomington, IN, Edwardsville, IL, Des Moines, IA, Toronto, Ontario, and lastly Detroit, MI. Anna dedicated many of her years in helping others and serving in the church. Other service included chaplaincy at Mount Carmel Hospital pastoral care in Detroit, MI, for two years.

On June 27, 1992, Anna survived the loss of her husband and decided to move back to Indiana, and settled in Bloomington. She sought work immediately, accepted spiritual ties and organizational obligations with the Bethel A.M.E. Church, where she also served as a steward as well. Several years followed and Anna made another life change and moved back to Madison where the majority of her family resided. Anna joined the St. Stephens A.M.E. Church in Hanover, where she a steward and where she worshipped and helped to rebuild, uplift, and spread the gospel to love one another until it closed.

She moved to Indianapolis, almost 10 years ago to live with her daughter, Lisa. After moving to Indianapolis she became a member with the Bethel Family Worship Center, where she participated in the Women's Missionary and the Widow Mites Ministries. Anna died on Thursday, Dec. 25, 2025, at 8:45 a.m., at the Hickory Creek of Madison in Madison, IN.

Anna will be missed by her loving sons, Nathan Davis and his wife, Mary of Madison, IN, Dale



Davis and his companion, Vicky Melton of Madison, IN; her loving daughter, Lisa Davis-Peck of Indianapolis, IN; eight grandsons; four granddaughters, numerous great grandchildren and great great grandchildren; her sister, Nan Smith of Madison, IN; several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her father, William Davis, her mother, Willa Mae Taylor Phelps, her husband of 18 years, Rev. Ralph S. Jones, died June 28, 1992, her daughters, Helenea Renea Davis, and Gloria Ann Davis Cosby, her sister, Mary Helen Davis, her brother, John "Buddy" Davis, and her step mother, Leatha Davis.

"GOD BE WITH YOU UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN"

Funeral services will be conducted on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2026, at 1 p.m., by Bishop Russell and Beverly Hylton at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive Madison, IN. Interment will follow in the Springdale Cemetery, 600 West Fifth Street in downtown Madison, IN.

Friends may visit on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2025, from 11 a.m., until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made to Bethel Family Worship Center Missonary/Outreach Fund. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials, can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Henry Prince Adams , was stillborn on Dec. 24, 2025, at Baptist Health Floyd Hospital in New Albany, IN, to Dakota Bryan and Hanna Elizabeth Stutesman Adams. Private arrangements will be arranged by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison, and Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Clinton L. Arnold, 85, of Owenton, KY, and formerly of Carroll County, KY, died Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2025, in Owenton. Funeral service was Monday, Dec. 29, at New Funeral Homes in Owenton, with private burial to follow in Wheatley Cemetery, www.grahamdun-nfh.com.

Eula Beatrice O'Neal Clem, 89, of Bedford, KY, died Monday, Dec. 22, 2025, at Baptist Hospital East in Louisville. Funeral service will held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30, at Ransdell Funeral Home in Bedford, with private burial in the Bedford Cemetery there,

www.ransdellfuneral.com.

David K. Gingerich, 91, of Pleasant, IN, died Friday, Dec. 26, 2025, at Norton Brownsboro Hospital in Louisville. Funeral service will be at 3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 2, at Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, IN. Graveside service will be at 11 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 3, in the North Monroe Cemetery in Monroe, OH, www.haskellandmorrison.com.

Karen Sue Jeffrey, 64, of Milton, KY, died Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2025, at her residence. Cremation was chosen with no services to be held. Arrangements by Lytle Welty Funeral Home & Cremation Service in Madison, IN, www.lytlewelty.com.

Robert Paul "Bob" "BK" Kitson, 59, of Indianapolis, died Thursday, Dec. 25, 2025, in Indianapolis. Arrangements will be announced by Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, IN, www.haskellandmorrison.com.

Charles L. Marsee, 71, of Rexville, IN, died Saturday, Dec. 27, 2025, at Ripley Crossing in Milan, IN. Funeral service will be at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 31, at Shelby Christian Church near Versailles, IN, with burial in the Cliff Hill Cemetery in Versailles. Arrangements by Stratton-Karsteter Funeral Home in Versailles, www.skfuneralhome.com.

Jane Ellen "Janie" McRoberts Smith, 70, of Cross Plains, IN, died Saturday, Dec. 27, 2025, at Norton King's Daughters' Health in Madison, IN. Arrangements will be announced by Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, IN, www.haskellandmorrison.com.

Roger Garrett Taylor, 71, of Smithfield, KY, died Wednesday Dec. 24,2025, at his home. Funeral service was Monday, Dec. 29, at Prewitt Funeral Home in New Castle, KY, with burial in the New Castle, www.prewitts.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENTS
FIRST DAY HIKE

Clifty Falls State Park
Thursday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m.
Meet at the pool at 10 a.m. on Jan. 1 for a 1½-hour rugged hike to explore the canyons and ravines of Clifty Falls State Park. There are no restrooms at this location, so plan accordingly. In the event of snowy/icy weather, hike will follow an easier alternate route. Refreshments will be provided after the hike. Dress appropriately for the weather. If there is snow or ice, you will want to bring trekking poles and wear crampons on your shoes.

OPENING RECEPTION

Madison Area Arts Alliance, The SPOT, 326 Mulberry Street, Madison
Friday, Jan. 9, 5-8 p.m.
Views From the Intergalactic Synaptic Pathway: Works by Paul Hassfurther, A Retrospective" in the front gallery, and "Payne Hollow Inspirations: Works by Various Artists", including Eric Phagan, Bill Barnes, Kevin Carlson, Patty Cooper Wells, Marshall Falconberry, Jon Sebree, Jane Vonderheide, Zack Baxter, and Tamara Beach. Gallery talks at 6 p.m.

BLOOD DRIVE
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Jefferson County Public Library
420 West Main Street, Madison
Thursday, Jan. 15, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Appointment times may be scheduled before arriving by calling 800-

733-2767, going to redcrossblood.org, or downloading the Blood Donor App.

For more information, call 812-866-4843.

FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS
SALVATION ARMY FOOD BANK

331 East Main Street, Madison
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays,
Noon-1 p.m.
A food giveaway at the red door on east side of building. Bring your own bags.
For more information, call 812-265-2157.

HOUSE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY

100 East Second Street, Madison
Tuesdays 5-7 p.m.; Fridays, 9-11 a.m.
A food giveaway and distribution at the Jefferson County House of Hope Food Pantry in downtown Madison.
Please arrive at the pantry 15 minutes prior to closing to be served.

NORTH MADISON CHRISTIAN CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

1400 East State Road 62
Saturday, Jan. 24, 8-10 a.m.
A food distribution at the church. Free with no qualifications.

CLOTHING DISTRIBUTIONS

JESUS CLOTHES CLOSET

Trinity United Methodist Church
412 West Main Street, Madison
Mondays, 9-11 a.m.
Jesus Clothes Closet distributes free clothing to those in need.

NEWS OF RECORD

JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER LODGINGS
Dec. 25, 2025

of Methamphetamine and Possession of a Syringe, both Level 6 felonies' and Possession of a Schedule Drug, a Class A misdemeanor. Bond \$5,000 cash.

Dec. 27, 2025
Zachary Blaine Hopkins, 18, on a warrant for Failure to Appear. No bond.

Dec. 28, 2025
Kevin Jacob White, 33, on a Jefferson County warrant for failure to appear. No bond

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS
JEFFERSON COUNTY
Dec. 23, 2025

1809 Property Group LLC to Brett Corbin, 250 West Meadowlark Circle, Madison.
Justin M. Sowers, Anthony Sowers (estate) and Anthony Wayne Sowers to Justin M. Sowers, 3545 Bulldog Road, Madison.
Cornerstone Baptist Church Inc. to CM Smith Real Estate LLC, 3 parcels totaling approximately 2.75 acres at 200 and 200+ Kuntz Road,

Hanover.

Thomas R. Spurgeon and Wanda J. Spurgeon to Thomas R. Spurgeon and Wanda J Spurgeon, 10515 and 10515+ West State Road 56, Hanover.

Thomas R. Spurgeon and Wanda J. Spurgeon to Thomas R. Spurgeon and Traci M. Harsin and Carrie A. Leach (transferees death), 10515 and 10515+ West State Road 56, Hanover.

Kevin Harvey to Courtney D.M. Leon and Matthew R. Thevenow, 63 South Main Cross Street, Hanover.

Burrows Properties Management LLC to STD Property Group LLC, 2 parcels at 281 East Main Street Hanover and 3 Madison Avenue, Hanover.

Harry Dobbins Properties LLC to Stone Grill Properties LLC, 1444 Clifty Drive, Madison.

Jarded L. Yoder and Rosana L. Yoder to Frank Dabney, 5232 Reed Drive, Hanover.

Julie Ann Demaree (trustee), William L. Demaree (living trust), Betty K. Demaree (trustee) and Betty K. Demaree (living trust) to Glen

Rogers and Angelia Rogers, 412 West Hentz Lane, Madison.

Lilla Bell Cleveland and Johnathon Kameron Umila to Lilla Bell Cleveland, 1002 West Main Street, Condo 2, Madison.

Michael P. Greco and Tara Rose Greco to Nathan Padgett, 1106 East Street, Madison.

Sandra Ledbetter, Kelven Jackman (deceased) and Mable Jackman (deceased) to Waymon Ledbetter (deceased) and Sandra Ledbetter, 37 acres at 8486 North 900 West, Commiskey.

Sandra Ledbetter, Waymon Ledbetter (deceased) and Sandra Ledbetter to Sandra

Ledbetter, 37 acres at 8486

North 900 West, Commiskey.

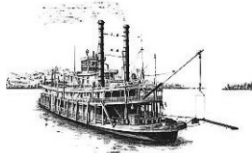
Sandra Ledbetter to John Ledbetter Jr. (transferee death), 37 acres at 8486 North 900 West, Commiskey.

Timothy B. Humphrey and Brady T. Humphrey to Brandy L. Case, 4831 East State Road 62, Canaan.

David Bedingham to Dennis Webster, 424 East Second Street, Madison.

Dec. 26, 2025

Greg A. Stoner and Karen A. Stoner to Greg A. Stoner, Karen A. Stoner and Malia D. Stoner and Ashley B. Stoner (transferees death), 3425 and 3427 West Ten Cent Road, Hanover.



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2025 Photo Review



A groundbreaking for the Madison-Hanover connector trail was held in August. Those turning shovels were (from left): Kay Stokes, grant writer; Ken Temple, president of Temple and Temple Excavating and Paving; Madison Deputy Mayor Tony Steinhardt III; Jim Olson, secretary for Heritage Trail Conservancy; Madison Mayor Bob Courtney; Bob Greene, executive director of the Heritage Trail Conservancy; Erica Gummere, grant coordinator for Indiana state parks with the Department of Natural Resources; Kevin Kellems, Jefferson Count representative on Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority; Cathy Hale, former executive director of Madison Railroad; Adam Robillard, general manager of Madison Railroad; and Cory Duff, assistant property manager at Clifty Falls State Park.

Bob Demaree

LOCAL

FROM PAGE A1

change to allow one development “opens to others, changing our riverfront forever.” He urged the Plan Commission to “deny any zoning change that would lead to taller buildings or change our riverfront forever,” and received a standing ovation by those in agreement.

There were also people passionate about zoning in Jefferson County as the Plan Commission developed updates on solar to its Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). In September, the Commissioners adopted solar updates by a 2-1 vote that had been approved and recommended by the County Plan Commission.

WEATHER

A week of repeated torrential rainfall in April triggered widespread flooding throughout the region with the water finally cresting at 458.62 feet in Madison, which ranked 12th among historic crests at the National Water Prediction Service Clifty Creek weather station and was the highest since the 1997 flood that crested at 460.9 feet.

A winter storm that began Sunday, Jan. 5, led to a week of hazardous weather and digging out in Jefferson County.

MADISON CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

Madison Consolidated Schools is moving forward with an Early Learning Center that is expected to open in the fall of 2027. In July, lease and bond agreements between the Holding Corporation and Madison Consolidated Schools (MCS) were approved for a \$28 million loan. Funding help is also being received from the Bethany Legacy Foundation for the center, expected to cost \$32 million and to be constructed on the grounds of the former E.O. Muncie Elementary School on Madison's hilltop.

The Growing Minds Farm Stop opened in July, helping Madison Consolidated High School students learn about operating a business in a real-life setting and providing a venue for local farmers to market their fresh produce, meat and other products.

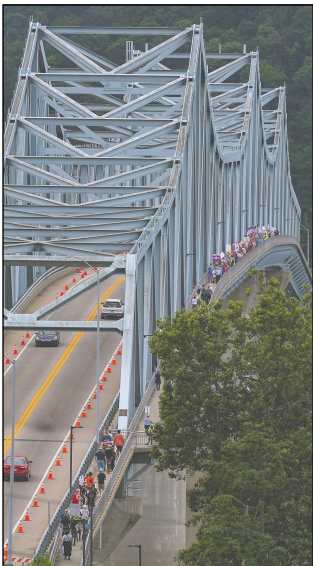
Discovery of significant amounts of water leaking from the pool at Madison Junior High School led to the school board approving in December a contract of \$944,484 with Landmark Aquatic Company for pool repairs.

SOUTHWESTERN SCHOOLS

An aging HVAC system caused classes at Southwestern Schools to be canceled for several days early in the year. In November, the school board voted to submit an application to the state for a \$4 million Common School Loan to provide funding for new HVAC to replace the current one.

Misty Jacobs resigned from Southwestern school board after more than four years on the board. Rick Schnebelt was selected to replace her on the board.

Jill Goebel Mires became



Mark Campbell

“No Kings” protesters make their way out onto the walkway on the Milton-Madison Bridge during one of two events that linked protesters from Indiana and Kentucky in opposition to policies by President Donald Trump.

the first female superintendent in the 65-year history of Southwestern Jefferson County Consolidated Schools. Mires, a 1987 graduate of Shawe Memorial High School, had previously been superintendent at Salem Community Schools. She replaced the retiring Jeffrey Bates who had been superintendent since 2019.

CITY OF MADISON

Work to transform a section of Main Street from Jefferson Street to the top of Hanover Hill was launched in August with a groundbreaking ceremony at the Broadway Foundation park. The roadway had been an Indiana state highway for many years but in 2020 the road came under the control of the city of Madison under an agreement with the Indiana Department of Transportation. The first phase was Main Street from Broadway to Mill Street, including milling and paving of the roadway, sidewalk improvements and replacements in some areas to meet ADA accessibility standards, storm drain repairs, and the installation of pedestrian safety bump-outs at Vine, Elm and Broadway streets as well as near the Comfort Station on Main Street. Later in the year, milling, paving and restriping was done from Broadway Street to St. Michaels Avenue.

A groundbreaking was held in March for the Residences at Sunrise Crossing apartment complex with anticipation that some units will be available for occupation in 2026. The project is in two phases with 96 units in the first phase.

A groundbreaking for the Madison-Hanover Connector Trail was held in August marking the beginning of the first phase of a project that will extend Madison's Heritage Trail to the entrance of Clifty Falls State Park.

Indiana Landmarks acquired the historic Custer-Cosby House in Madison with plans to stabilize the long-vacant property and complete exterior restoration before marketing it to buyers who can complete interior rehabilitation. The project is part of efforts by the City of Madison and preservation advocates to address vacant and blighted properties and boost revitalization within the



Bob Demaree

Groundbreaking to be begin Madison's redesign of Main Street work was held in August. Pictured (from left) are Josh Darby, director of construction services for JTL Prime AE; Jerry Alexander, East Central Indiana Regional Director Intergovernmental Affairs for Gov. Mike Braun; Deputy Mayor Tony Steinhardt III; City Council member Carla Krebs; Kathy McKalip, director of local programs for the Indiana Department of Transportation; Kevin Heilman, owner of All-Star Paving; Mayor Bob Courtney; Mindy McGee, the city's director of finance; Austin Sims, executive director of Madison Main Street; Council member Lucy Dattilo; David Carlow, a member of the Board of Public Works and Safety; and Council member Joshua Schafer.

city's National Historic Landmark District.

The structure of the Miss Madison Racing Team took a new direction after all assets were sold at the end of 2024 to Seattle-area businessman Bruce Ratchford. Miss Madison leased and raced the former Miss Budweiser T-3 hull at the eastern races of the 2025 H1 Unlimited Tour after the board of directors was restructured by Mayor Bob Courtney.

TOWN OF HANOVER

With Hanover College last year being awarded a \$30 million College and Community Collaboration grant in 2024 by Lilly Endowment Inc., the town has been making plans for improvements to sidewalks and streetscapes, along with the town's historic area in the vicinity of Main Street and Madison Avenue.

A application was submitted in July to place a portion of the town of Hanover on the National Register of Historic Places.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Norton King's Daughters' Health announced plans at a County Council meeting for a new hilltop Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Transport Hub, estimated to cost \$4.4 million, moving EMS services from its current location at 600 West Street to a facility to be constructed on the grounds of Norton KDH, 1373 East State Road 62, Madison.

The possibility of converting the former Jefferson County Jail into a Juvenile Detention Center was presented to the County Council in December. Joshua Nichols, president of Juvenile Facilities of Indiana, presented the County Council with a contract for a Juvenile Detention Center that initially would house eight males and eight females, potentially expanding to more than 40 in the future. No action was taken but the Commissioners and Council plan to meet in January to discuss the matter further.

Meanwhile, the county's Jail Chemical Addiction Program (JCAP) got off the ground in 2025 and saw its first three graduates before year's end.

HANOVER COLLEGE

Accreditation challenges led the Hanover

College Board of Trustees to vote to suspend development of a proposed Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program.

A ribbon cutting and dedication was held Friday for the \$5.1 million Hanover College Business and Entrepreneur Center that opened this fall.

A 25th anniversary was celebrated for the Hanover College Science Center that was dedicated on Sept. 30, 2000.

Hanover College is just two years from celebrating its 200th anniversary, and the historic campus earned a place on the National Register of Historic Places. The Hanover College Historic District includes 23 historic buildings, along with a small stone gazebo and the view shed of “The Point.”

OUT IN THE COUNTY

Efforts were underway to revitalize the former Dupont Elementary School and Gymnasium that closed at the end of the 2011-2012 school year. The civil engineering firm, Gonzelez LLC, was hired to do the feasibility study on the buildings.

For many years, the only time Saluda Township Park has been open to the public was for the Chelsea Jubilee during the first weekend of September, with uses at other times only by daily rental. That changed in June when the Saluda Township Advisory Board announced that the six-acre park is now open to the public.

Texas-based Vital Farms Inc. purchased 81.79 acres in December 2024 on East Poplar Ridge Road near the county line of Jefferson, Ripley and Switzerland counties for developing an egg farm in 2025 that will serve as an Accelerator Farm, that not only produces eggs but allows Vital Farms to work on improving the processes for egg production.

PROTESTS AND VIGILS

In April, more than 100 people turned out in the rain on a Saturday for a Hands Off political protest on the Jefferson County Courthouse Squar in downtown Madison as part of a nationwide display of public resistance against the second administration of President Donald Trump. The event had been canceled locally due to inclement

weather but protesters showed up anyway with signs and chants for about two hours. There also were two No Kings protests — one in June and another in October, held around and on the Milton-Madison Bridge involving residents of both Indiana and Kentucky.

Several hundred people gathered at the historic Broadway Fountain in Madison in September to hold a candlelight vigil remembering Charlie Kirk and his family after his murder Sept. 10 in Utah.

TOURISM AND EVENTS

The inaugural Unbroken Circle music festival brought 16,000 people to Bicentennial Park in September.

Ribberfest BBQ & Blues festival was retired by Visit Madison Inc. A new event, named Madison's BBQ Party, will replace that event on the third weekend of August in 2026.

Perfect weather made for a ideal weekend for the 54th Madison Chautauqua Festival of Arts, rebounding from 2024 when remnants of Hurricane Helene made for wet, miserable conditions. “We paid our rain tax last year and this year we’re reaping the benefits,” said Chautauqua Coordinator Kara Hinz who thinks the crowd may be have been more than two years ago, another good weather year. “It feels a little busier than even 2023. I have no scientific data, but it feels busier.”

The inaugural Rumble on the River Car show brought about 450 cars to downtown Madison. The event was hosted by CASA of Jefferson County, taking over hosting a car show on Memorial Day weekend the River Rat Rodz Car Club announced its decision to discontinue hosting a car show.

Madison took delivery of a new trolley in August to now provide two vehicles for the Madison Trolley Line by joining one that arrived last November.

Filming for the short movie “Anodynus” was done in Madison in late September. Written by Madison natives Luke Fisher and Alec Lichlyter, the film follows a young American veteran of the Afghan war struggling with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and addiction who obsessively listens to the last voicemail

from his squad-mate who died in suspicious circumstances involving an opioid overdose.

A celebration of the 50th anniversary of “A Girl Named Sooner” brought former child actor Susan Deer Connor back to Vevay in June. Known as Susan Deer at the time she was cast as the title role, Sooner, for the movie, she was an 8-year-old student at Fall Creek Elementary School in Indianapolis when she beat out 300 other girls from Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Louisville for the part. The made-for-TV movie was filmed in Switzerland County and premiered on NBC on June 18, 1975.

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Big Lots announced the closing of many stores nationwide, and the Madison store was closed in February. Big Lots opened in Madison as part of a purchase of 17 Danner's 3D stores from Danner's Inc. in December 1986.

The Hardee's restaurant on Clifty Drive unexpectedly closed in early December after being in that location since 2019. It was the second time Hardee's has left Madison.

Zaxby's opened at Shoppes of Sunrise Crossing in December, completing occupation of three three outliet storefront in the national retail center.

Dollar General opened a location in Dupont this year, and a new DG Market opened in Hanover.

TRANSITIONS

David Woolpy resigned in July as Chief Executive Officer of the Boys and Girls Club of Jefferson County and was replaced in the fall by Dustin Bentz.

Mayor Bob Courtney restructured several positions of leadership in his administration, moving Mindy McGee to Director of Finance and adding Deputy Mayor to the economic and redevelopment duties of Tony Steinhardt III. Also, the Parks Department was restructured with Scott Klein departing as park director, and Tanya Burnette assuming the role of director of operations. Later in the year, Shawn Scudder left his role as police chief, and resigned from the police department. Earlier this month, Rick Mundt was named police chief with Ricky Harris and Kyle Cutshaw named the assistant chiefs. and Director of Planning Nicole Schell resigned to become executive director of the Boone County Area Plan Commission in Lebanon, Indiana.

With Chris Shelton relocating within the county, he resigned as District 2 County Councilman effective at the end of the year with a replacement due to be selected at Republican Caucus on Saturday.

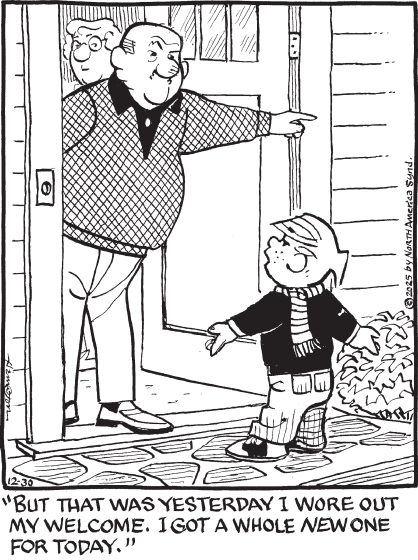
Local businessman, civic leader and former National Guard Colonel Norbert Anthony “Tony” Steinhardt died at age 81 on Jan. 1, former Jefferson County Sheriff Dave Thomas died in February at the age of 67 and Tom Moriarity, a leader in the Main Street movement who got his start in Madison, died in September at the age of 75 after a year-long battle with cancer.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

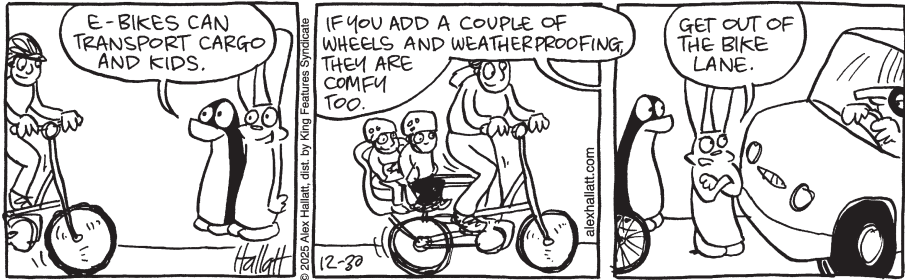
By Bil Keane



DENNIS THE MENACE



ARCTIC CIRCLE



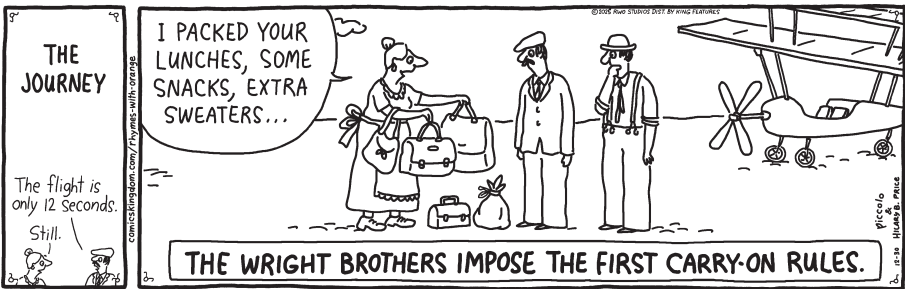
BIZARRO



BEETLE BAILEY



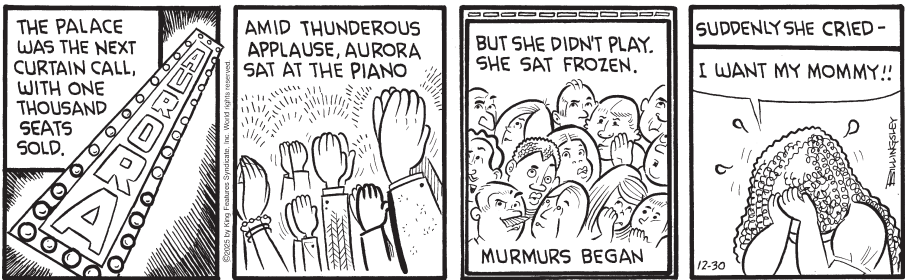
RHYMES WITH ORANGE



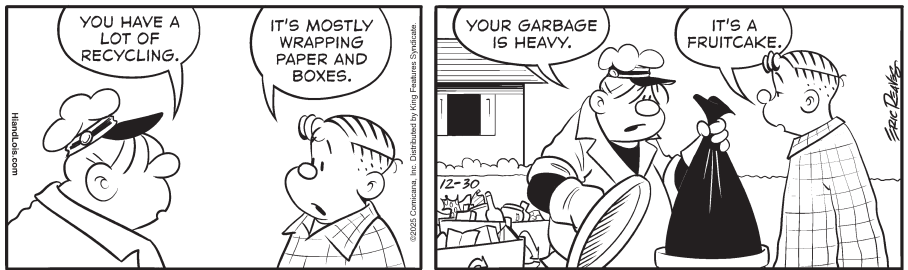
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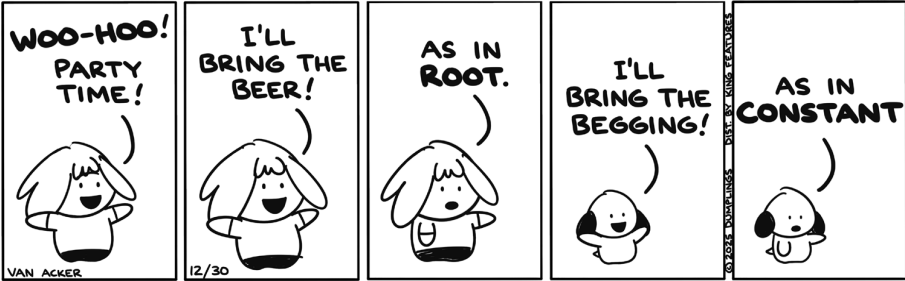
PARDON MY PLANET



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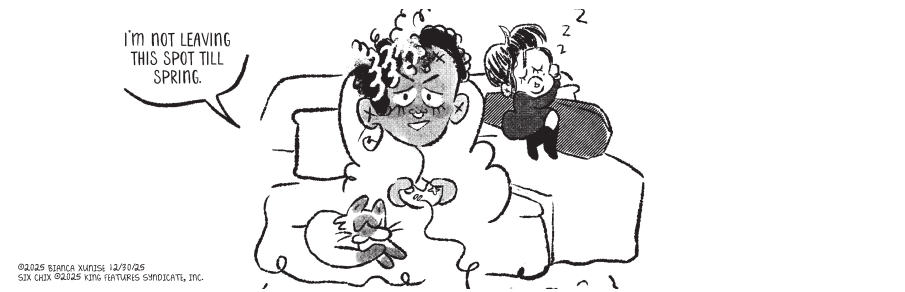
DUMPLINGS



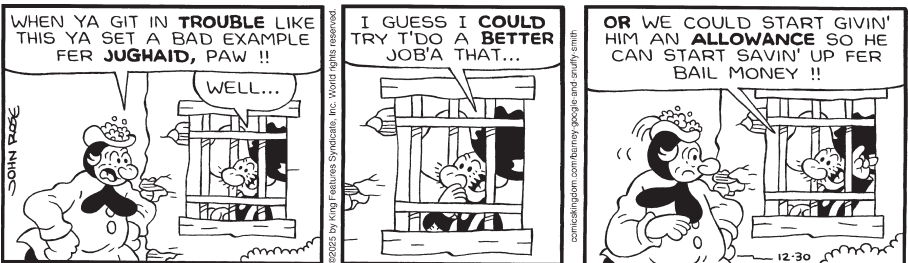
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



SIX CHIX



BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



SALLY FORTH



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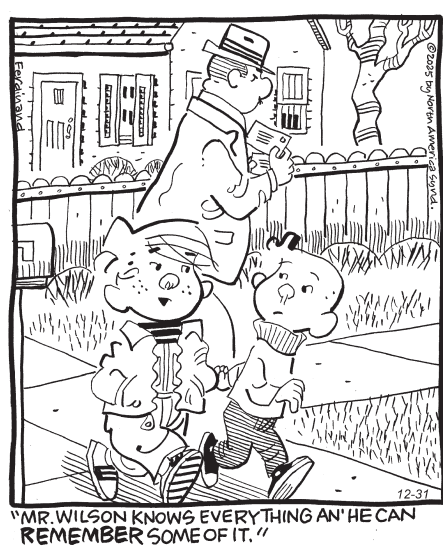
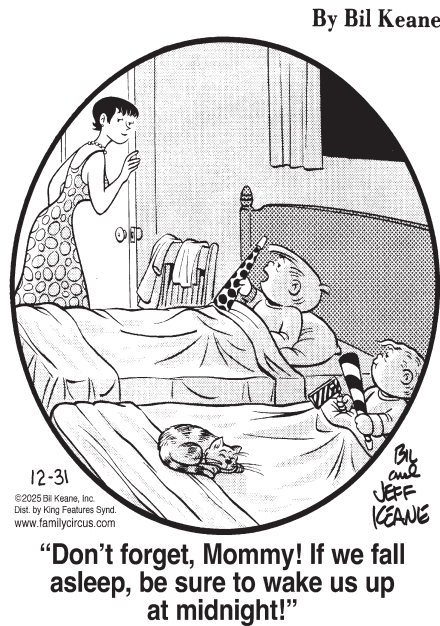
MUTTS



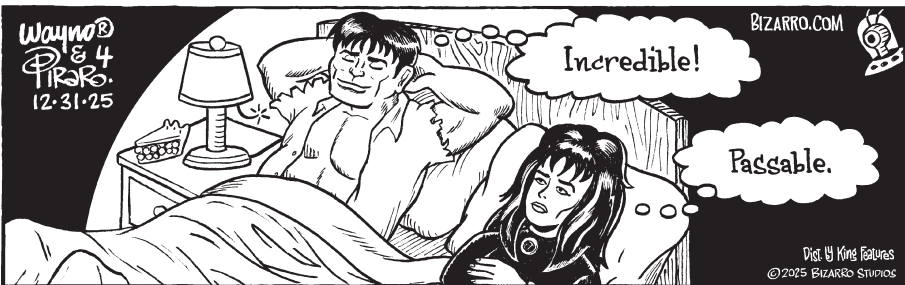
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

DENNIS THE MENACE

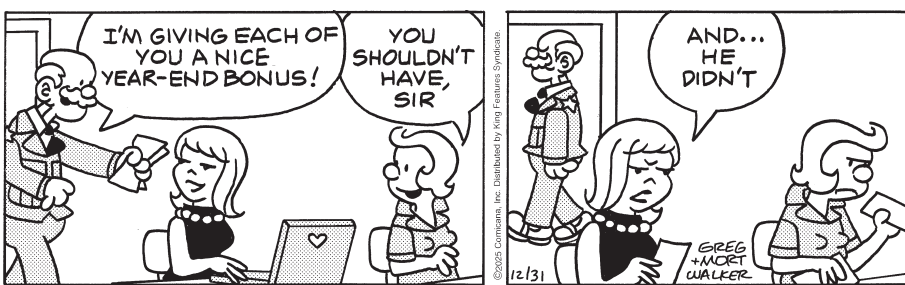
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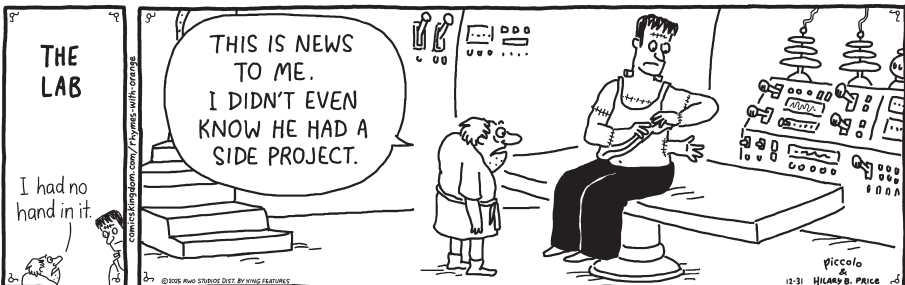
BIZARRO



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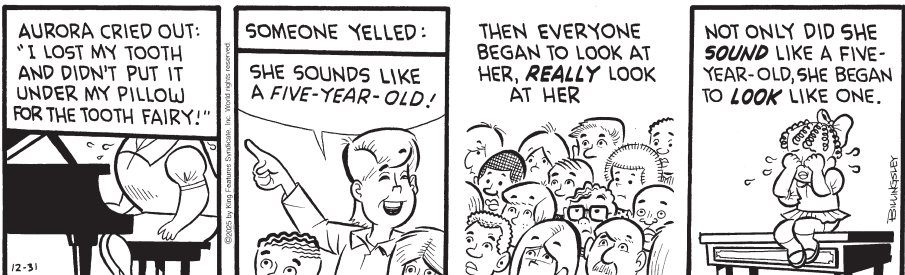
RHYMES WITH ORANGE



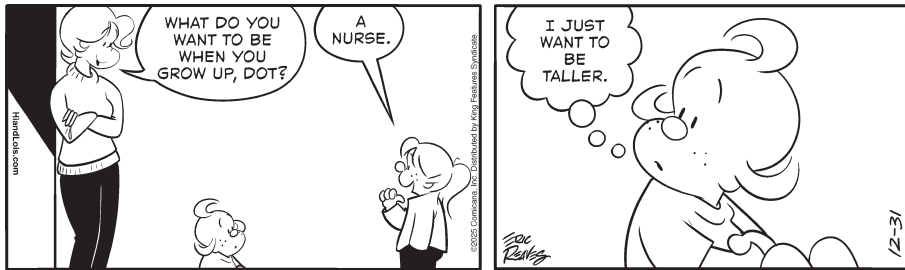
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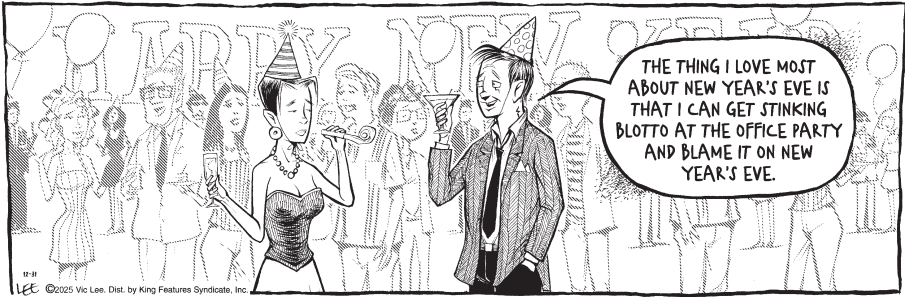
CURTIS



HI & LOIS



PARDON MY PLANET



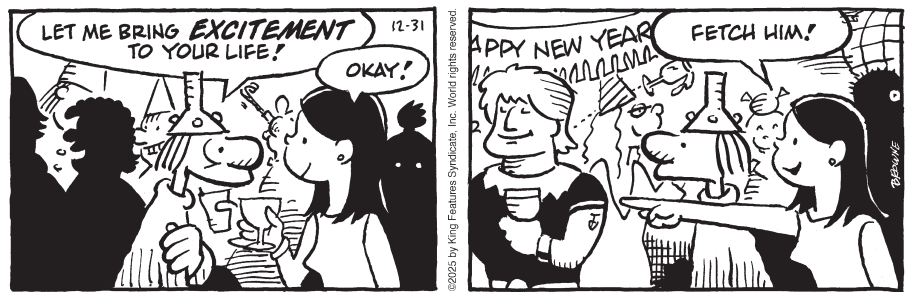
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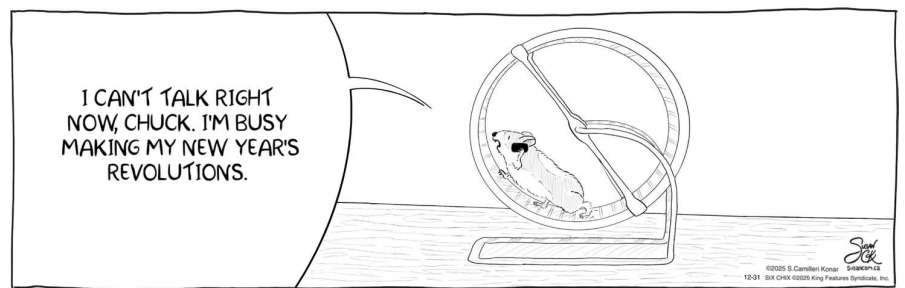
DUMPLINGS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



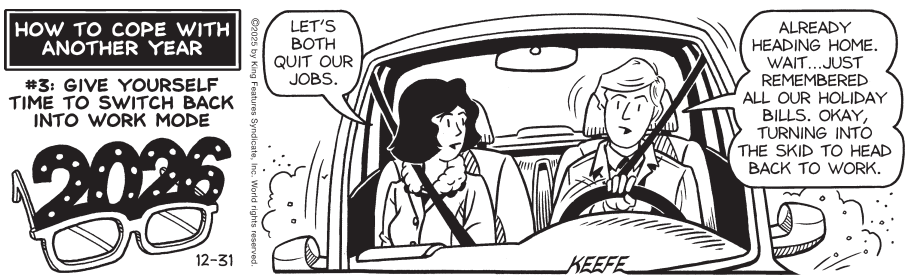
SIX CHIX



BARNEY GOOGLE AND SNUFFY SMITH



SALLY FORTH



DUSTIN



MUTTS



The last holdout: Why Vernon is Indiana's only town still governed by an 1851 charter

BY CASEY SMITH
INDIANA CAPITAL CHRONICLE

When the General Assembly incorporated southeast Indiana's Town of Vernon in 1851, it granted the community sweeping authority to govern itself. Over the next century-and-a-half, other towns in the state eventually gave that authority back. But Vernon never did. In a state where every other municipality now operates under uniform state statute, Vernon remains Indiana's lone charter town, governed by an incorporation act approved on Jan. 22, 1851, when Indiana was barely 35 years into its statehood.

The document serves as a local constitution, spelling out everything from elections and offices to fines, taxes and the powers of town leaders. Home to fewer than 300 residents, according to the most recent 2020 census, Vernon is Indiana's smallest county seat by population. The Jennings County town sits just south of the larger city of North Vernon, on a narrow peninsula formed by a bend in the Muscatatuck River.

It's one of only a handful of towns in the state to elect a mayor and the only town that elects both a mayor and a town marshal.

The unusual governance of one of the Hoosier State's smallest communities resurfaced this year at the Statehouse as lawmakers considered a bill that would have shifted town elections to presidential election years.

The proposal ultimately died — but even if it had advanced, Vernon would have remained untouched, thanks to a special carveout to specifically exempt the town.

INDIANA'S LAST CHARTER TOWN

Long before Indiana standardized municipal government — a process that gradually unfolded in the late 19th and early 20th centuries — and in the days predating synchronized election calendars and machine-printed ballots, towns were governed by charters — individual acts of law passed by the General Assembly.

It was a common approach in the 1800s, according to historians and state historical records. Towns, churches and even businesses were often created with legislative

approval, each with its own rules.

Vernon's charter, for example, begins by formally incorporating the town by name, defining its boundaries and declaring its residents “a body corporate and politic” vested with “all the powers and privileges appertaining to bodies corporate and politic with perpetual succession.”

But that system began to unravel later in the 19th century.

Indiana's 1851 Constitution — approved just months after Vernon's charter took effect — curtailed the General Assembly's ability to pass special laws for individual communities, pushing the state toward uniform municipal statutes instead. Over time, towns relinquished their charters and transitioned to governance under state law.

By the late 20th century, Vernon stood alone.

The reasons for resistance? Historians, lawmakers and local officials say it's part habit — and part local pride.

BELL AND BALLOT BOXES

Under Vernon's charter, elections are governed not by Indiana's consolidated election calendar, but rather by the town's own rules.

The charter calls for the election of a mayor, council members and other officers to two-year terms, held “biennially thereafter.” The language predates today's partisan primaries or uniform state election days now held in May and November.

The document also specifies who can vote, requires advance public notice of elections and even outlines the hours polls remain open. Per the charter, voting historically took place during a short window that closed at 4 p.m., earlier than modern polling closures closer to 6 p.m.

It further requires either newspaper publication or posted written notices in each of the town's wards. Although Vernon historically operated with five wards, an ordinance in the early 2010s changed the town's structure to its current three wards.

And although election practices have evolved, Vernon has preserved many of its older traditions.

Votes are cast on paper and counted by hand. Ballots are deposited in a wooden box.

And when polls officially open, a handheld bell is rung to signal the start of the election.

The charter also allows elections to proceed without partisan primaries, also different from the rest of the state.

The mayor presides over council meetings and casts tie-breaking votes. The council is tasked with passing ordinances governing public safety, nuisances, streets, markets and taxation — as long as those laws are in line with the United States and Indiana constitutions.

The river town's charter additionally grants authority to the town to “restrain and prevent” livestock from running at large; regulate the speed of railroad trains within town limits; and impose fines for violations ranging from unsafe bridge crossings to misuse of municipal water supplies.

In one section, the charter mandates that town ordinances be published “on the door of the Court House, or at some other public place” — but nowadays, Vernon's website makes those publicly available, too.

WHY VERNON NEVER GAVE UP ITS CHARTER

There's no single explanation as to why Vernon never formally surrendered its charter, but the town's website boasts that its elections continue to be held “unlike any others in the state.”

According to the town's historical record, Vernon debated abandoning its charter multiple times over

the decades, especially as state law became more standardized and administrative responsibilities grew more complex.

Each time, however, local leaders and residents chose to retain it, viewing the charter as both a practical governing document and a symbol of the town's identity.

Election administrators and historians have described Vernon's system as a “living artifact” of sorts, showcasing how local governments once operated across Indiana.

During the 2025 legislative session, Senate Bill 355, authored by Sen. Mike Gaskill, R-Pendleton, sought to shift town elections to presidential election years. The bill passed the Senate but stalled and later died in the House.

Even so, lawmakers were careful not to disturb local operations in Vernon. The bill explicitly exempted the town, allowing Vernon to keep holding elections under its own rules.

Gaskill emphasized that the exemption was intentional. “There was no desire on my part to interfere at all with a piece of history that Indiana could be proud of,” he said.

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With Blue Oval plant closure looming, Glendale asks 'what now'?

BY BRENT SCHANDING
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

GLENDALE, Ky. — As the town counts down to the Feb. 14 shutdown of the BlueOval SK plant, Mike Bell, an organizer of the town's annual Crossing Fest and preacher at Glendale Christian Church, says reality is still sinking in for many of the townspeople.

“I really hurt for them,” Bell said. “You want success for your neighbors.”

Ford Motor Co. plans to retool the Glendale facility from an EV battery plant to a storage battery plant, resulting in layoffs for about 1,600 workers, announced prior to Christmas. Ford plans to hire at least 2,100 workers at the plant after the transition and invest about \$2 billion over the next two years. But details of those plans are still scarce and any reopening of the plant is not expected until sometime in 2027 at the soonest.

BlueOval SK has kept Glendale humming since the South Korea-based manufacturer announced plans to locate there in September 2021, along with a \$5.8 billion investment in Kentucky battery plants.

The economic “trickle down” was felt there almost immediately, Bell said.

For starters, the town's fall festival operated without a major financial sponsor until BlueOval SK stepped up in 2021 and begin donating \$10,000 annually to the event.

“They were the breath of the festival,” said Bell, who indicated that the plant's annual donation has covered the entire cost of the festival for the past four years, with enough money left over to purchase new playground equipment for the town's park and uniforms for its youth athletic teams.

A \$20,000 donation from Blue Oval SK helped renovate the town's gazebo a few years ago, while contractors for the company paved the town's sidewalks to make them more accessible for those with mobility issues.

Glendale's volunteer fire department also has benefited from the plant's philanthropy in the past years, Bell said. Donations from Blue Oval SK sometimes helped double its annual operating budget.

“There's a lot of moving parts,” Bell said, describing how the plant has helped the town's operations run like a well-oiled machine for many years. “If one of those parts breaks, it's the domino effect.”

On Friday afternoon, staff and customers at The Whistle Stop in Glendale said they were unsure what the local plant closure could mean for the eatery and the handful of other small retailers along the town's main corridor. Most at the café remembered just a few years ago when the highways in the area were expanded to accommodate the growing traffic from the plant.

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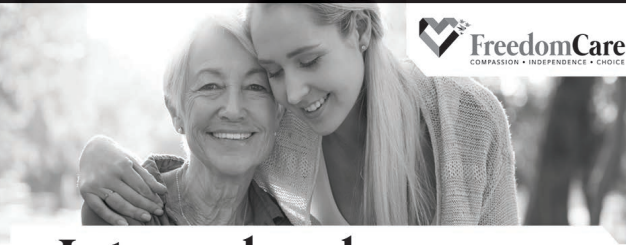
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Sports

Kentucky schools dominate Indiana with 7 wins in Kentuckiana Shootout

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Eminence, Carroll County and Trimble County combined to go 7-2 as Kentucky schools dominated their Indiana counterparts in the Kentuckiana Shootout at Shawe Memorial last weekend.

Eminence (6-4) swept all three of its games in easy fashion to win the event. The Warriors defeated Columbus Christian 68-41, Shawe 71-56 and Rising Sun 53-33. Carroll knocked off Rising Sun 68-61 and Columbus Christian 56-51 and Trimble defeated Columbus Christian 67-41 and Shawe 76-65.

Shawe defeated Carroll County 70-66 in overtime in what was the best game of the tournament and Rising Sun scored a 49-28 win over Trimble for the other win by an Indiana school.

The Shawe-Carroll game was a back-and-forth contest that saw the host Hilltoppers enter the fourth quarter trailing 42-36 before rallying to force overtime. Shawe then outscored the Panthers 11-7 in the extra session for the win.

Loren Stiver scored a career-high 40 points — including 18 in the fourth quarter and overtime — to lead Shawe and Cavaan Hambrick added

15 points. Jackson Kyle had 14 points, Hunter Dalton scored 13 and Ryan Kinman had 11 for the Panthers.

Jacoby Clark scored seven points to lead Trimble in its loss to Rising Sun. Briley Clifford scored 11 and Drake Pennix, Hudson Jent and Luke Demaree had nine points each in the Raiders' win over Columbus Christian.

Jent scored 13 points, Clifford had 12, Liam Taylor and Pennix scored 11 each and Demaree had 10 in the win over Shawe. Taylor Ralston hit eight 3-pointers and scored a career-high 28 points to lead Shawe in the loss. Stiver had 17 points and Hambrick and Cruz Barron each scored seven.

In Shawe's loss to Eminence, Hambrick had 24 points, Stiver scored 19 and Ralston had nine.

“We had a lot of young guys gain valuable playing experience and it will help us down the stretch,” Shawe coach Dan Hambrick said.

No scoring details were available in Carroll's wins over Rising Sun and Columbus Christian.

Trimble County, now 3-8 on the season, plays in another holiday tournament this week when the



David Campbell

Carroll County's Matthew Biggin (55) battles with Shawe's Loren Stiver (15) and Connor Kahn (35) for a rebound during Friday's game in the Kentuckiana Shootout at Shawe.

SEE KENTUCKY/PAGE B2



Handout

Southwestern's girls basketball team won the Hauser Invitational over the weekend. Members of the team are (from left): Front — Assistant coach Jonathan Simpson, Julia Pelsor, Josie Hubbard, Sophie Ford, Rorie Scroggins, Olivia Simpson, Baleigh McAfee, Mikayla Nussbaum, Savannah Nussbaum, Madi Dixon and assistant coach Paula Fulton. Back — Assistant coach Tom Scroggins and head coach Brian Crank.

Southwestern goes 3-0 to claim Hauser Invite

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Southwestern girls basketball kept its hot streak intact, winning three games to claim the Hauser Invitational over the weekend.

The Rebels, now 11-4 and winners of seven straight, knocked off

Northeastern 52-36 in the opening round early on Friday then produced a 48-35 win over Crawford County in the semifinals late Friday night. Southwestern then knocked off Henryville 45-33 in the championship.

Sisters Mikayla Nussbaum and Savannah Nussbaum each had a big

tournament for the Rebels with both scoring a total of 34 points.

Mikayla Nussbaum scored five points and had four rebounds and three assists in the win over Northeastern, 13 points and three steals in the win over Crawford

SEE SOUTHWESTERN/PAGE B2

LOCAL SPORTS CALENDAR

TUESDAY, DEC. 30

Hanover men, Wooster Tournament, TBA
Madison girls, Scottsburg Tourney, TBA
Madison, Southwestern boys, Jefferson Co. Invite at Madison, TBA
Shawe, Switzerland Co. girls, Austin Tourney, TBA
Switzerland Co. boys, Switzerland Co. Tourney, TBA
Trimble Co. boys vs. Jackson Co., Pineville Classic, 1:45 p.m.
Trimble Co. girls at Garrard Co., Garrard Co. Classic, 7 p.m.
Carroll Co. girls vs. N/A, Pam Browning Classic, 8:15 p.m.

WRESTLING

Switzerland Co. boys, Connersville Classic, 8 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31

BASKETBALL

Trimble Co. girls vs. Harrison Co., Garrard Co. Classic, 10 a.m.
Trimble Co. boys vs. Nicholas Co., Pineville Classic, 1:45 p.m.
Carroll Co. girls vs. N/A, Pam Browning Classic, 4:15 p.m.

WRESTLING

Switzerland Co. boys, Connersville Classic, 8 a.m.

THURSDAY, JAN. 1

No local events

FRIDAY, JAN. 2

BASKETBALL

Carroll Co. girls host Iroquois, 7:30 p.m.

WRESTLING

Madison, Southwestern, Switzerland Co. girls, IHSAA Sectional at Floyd Central, 9 a.m.

Indiana football's rise to national title contender rewards fans who endured decades of losing

BY MAURA CAREY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bill Murphy has been an Indiana football season ticket holder for 66 years. He says he has rarely missed a game even though 55 of them have been losing seasons in a historic stretch of bowl-less holidays.

One of those rare misses stands out: The 1968 Rose Bowl, when Indiana lost 14-3 to O.J. Simpson and a USC team that went on to be crowned national champion. Murphy was 15 at the time, and his parents weren't on board with sending him to California alone. But neither Murphy nor his parents could have anticipated the bowl drought that followed. The Hoosiers didn't make another bowl until 1979, and after that, 1986.

Now 77, Murphy wasn't sure this day would come again. So a backup plan was established in case of an emergency.

“I told my wife, son and daughter, I told them, ‘If I die before we go to the Rose Bowl again, I want you to take my urn and buy a program, buy a seat, set the program and urn on the seat, and I’ll be there with you guys,’” he said.

Murphy's story would resonate with any lifelong Indiana football fan, though he warns there may not be many. He grew up a



AJ Mast/AP photo

Indiana's Fernando Mendoza celebrates after the Big Ten championship NCAA college football game against Ohio State in Indianapolis, Saturday, Dec. 6.

dedicated supporter of Indiana's losing football team in Bloomington, a city that rallied around the powerhouse and championship-winning basketball team.

The script has since flipped a bit. Hoosiers fans have had more to cheer about the past season or two when it comes to football than basketball. A team that was once an afterthought in its community has a new brand of committed fans who have the chance to head to Pasadena for the program's biggest game in years: Top-seeded Indiana will play

Alabama on Thursday in the Granddaddy of Them All for a chance to advance to the College Football Playoff semifinals.

The program has reached new heights over the past two years under back-to-back AP Coach of the Year Curt Cignetti, finally abandoning the title of losingest program in the history of the Bowl Subdivision and handing the unwelcome crown to Northwestern earlier this year. Indiana finished the regular season as Big Ten champion with a perfect 13-0 record behind quarterback Fernando



Obed Lamy/AP photo

Bill Murphy points to a wall of framed sports photos in a room at his home in Greenfield, Ind., Wednesday, Dec. 17.

Mendoza, the school's first Heisman Trophy winner.

Longtime fan Kevin Harrell wouldn't miss the Rose Bowl, even though his last trip to the stadium wasn't too long ago. When the Big Ten expanded with four West Coast teams in 2024, he took the opportunity to see his team play in the iconic stadium, thinking the mid-September matchup against UCLA could be the closest he'd

come to seeing Indiana in the Rose Bowl this century.

“It’s beyond my wildest dreams,” Harrell said, admitting that having this level of confidence in the team is an unfamiliar feeling. “We have always expected the worst. We could always find a new way to lose the game. It’s been kind of weird how quickly I’ve gone from

SEE REWARDS/PAGE B2

Ky. Fish & Wildlife advances changes to boating, fishing, hunting regs

BY PAXTOM MEDIA GROUP

The Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission voted to recommend amendments to multiple hunting, fishing, boating and wildlife regulations during its quarterly meeting this month.

The commission approved several action items that require legislative review before taking effect, along with other measures that can be enacted without legislative approval, according to a news release from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Administrative regulation changes typically take effect six to nine months after filing with the Kentucky legislature.

Among the proposals requiring legislative approval were changes to waterway safety rules to establish where wakesports would be permitted. Under the proposal, wakesports would be allowed only on designated waters and only at least 200 feet from shore on all sides and 200 feet from commercial docks or moorage harbors,

according to the release. Wakeboat operators would also be required to drain ballast tanks to the fullest extent practicable before leaving a body of water and the ramp area.

Eligible waters would include the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and lakes such as Kentucky Lake, Lake Cumberland, Lake Barkley, Barren River Lake, Cave Run Lake, Dale Hollow Lake, Laurel River Lake, Rough River Lake, Taylorsville Lake and several others. All other Kentucky waters would be ineligible for wakesports.

The commission also advanced proposed changes to fishing regulations affecting black bass, shovelnose sturgeon and skipjack herring. The proposal would remove the largemouth bass slot limit at Cave Run Lake and establish no size limit for largemouth bass there, while setting an aggregate daily limit of 10 black bass, with no more than five longer than 12 inches, according to the release.

The 18-inch minimum size limit for smallmouth bass at Cave Run

Lake would remain in place. Slot limits for largemouth and smallmouth bass would also be removed at Otter Creek in the Otter Creek Outdoor Recreation Area.

On multiple lakes with existing black bass protective slot limits, the proposal would increase the aggregate daily limit from six to 10 fish. Those waters include Beaver Lake, Bert Combs Lake, Beulah Lake, Boltz Lake, Carter Caves State Park Lake, Corinth Lake, Elkhorn Creek, Elmer Davis Lake, General Butler State Park Lake, Grayson Lake, Lake Blythe, Lake Malone, Lake Pennyryle, Lincoln Homestead State Park Lake, McNeely Lake, Panbowl Lake and Wood Creek Lake, according to the release.

Additional fishing proposals would establish a daily limit of two shovelnose sturgeon and 100 skipjack herring. Two small lakes — Owens’ Lake in Boone County and the Harry T. Clark Community Park Pond in Rowan County — would be added to the Fishing in

Neighborhoods program and managed under that program’s regulations, according to the release.

Other proposed regulation changes include clarifying that guiding hunters for profit on a wildlife management area constitutes prohibited commercial activity, while fishing tournaments launching from WMA boat ramps would not be considered commercial activity.

Another proposal would modify deer hunting rules to allow hunting on properties owned by county or local governments, including wildlife management areas, state parks, other public lands and federally controlled areas.

The commission also recommended changes related to taxidermy and the buying and selling of inedible wildlife parts to incorporate updated applications and reporting forms for fur buyer and fur processor licenses, along with updates to special agency fundraising permit regulations to modify definitions and reorder permit drawing sequences,

according to the release.

Several actions approved by the commission do not require legislative approval. In response to a positive detection of chronic wasting disease in Pulaski County, the commission expanded Kentucky’s CWD Surveillance Zone to include Pulaski, Wayne, Whitley, McCreary, Lincoln, Laurel, Rockcastle, Russell and Casey counties, according to the release. The action includes related restrictions, authorization of baiting under the commissioner’s approval, prohibition of deer rehabilitation within the zone, implementation of carcass movement restrictions and expansion of a deer scrape study into the affected counties.

The commission also approved a request to form a limited number of commission committees to allow input from Kentucky sportsmen and sportswomen on potential issues and business items, pending approval of a proposed structure to be presented at the commission’s next quarterly meeting in February 2026, according to the release.

Kentucky basketball is bringing back its iconic denim uniforms

BY CAMERON DRUMMOND
LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER (TNS)

Denim is back in fashion for Kentucky basketball.

The 1995-96 season — overseen by Rick Pitino and featuring players such as Tony Delk, Antoine Walker, Ron Mercer and current UK coach Mark Pope — ended in a national championship for UK. Along the way, the Wildcats wore distinct denim-themed uniforms that wove their way into the hearts of Wildcat fans.

Now, those threads are back. Kentucky is sporting a denim uniform for a game against rival Tennessee on Feb. 7 at Rupp Arena, UK announced as a gift to fans Christmas morning on its basketball Instagram page.

Since Pope — who averaged 7.6 points and 5.2 rebounds per game as a bench contributor on that 1996 title team — returned to his alma mater as the head coach in April 2024, there have been rumors of a potential return for the denim uniforms.

Pope brought one of his old denim uniform jerseys to his introductory press conference at a packed Rupp Arena. Since then, he’s continued to leave the door open for the potential of the Cats sporting the look again on the court.

In December 2024, Pope said on his weekly radio show that he was working to make a denim return happen.

“It’s amazing the red tape that we have to go through to make this happen, but we’re pretty passionate about trying



Photo by Lexington Herald-Leader

Kentucky basketball player Antoine Walker (24) pulls his teammates together for a huddle during an NCAA Tournament Final Four game against UMass on March 30, 1996, in East Rutherford, New Jersey. UK went 34-2 during the 1995-96 season on its way to the NCAA title.

to make that happen,” Pope said last year. “We’ll see what we come up with. It is definitely on my agenda of things to get accomplished.”

The breadcrumbs continued this season, which is the 30th anniversary of that 1995-96 title run. Specifically, Kentucky’s CBS Sports Classic matchup against St. John’s — with the Red Storm being coached by Pitino — made plenty of sense as the occasion to bring the denim back for.

In the lead up to that game, Pope was asked about the possibility of the denim jerseys returning.

“I’ve got to leave that one up to suspense,” Pope said. “... I’m contractually obligated by Nike to continue

to dance on that.”

Kentucky’s return to on-court denim is just one aspect in which the look is back in the basketball zeitgeist. In September, ex-Cat Devin Booker gifted denim-themed sneakers to his old school. Furthermore, Converse is set to bring back the denim-styled shoes the 1995-96 Wildcats wore. A report from this past summer indicated the shoes would be available as soon as spring 2026.

But the most prominent way in which denim was set to return was always going to be via an in-game uniform worn by the current collection of Kentucky players.

Pope’s mission in this regard has been realized.



Jeff Dean/AP photo

Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase celebrates with fans after scoring a touchdown during the first half of an NFL football game against the Arizona Cardinals, Sunday, Dec. 28, in Cincinnati.

Ja'Marr Chase finally gets back into end zone after frustrating stretch for Bengals receiver

BY CHARLIE GOLDSMITH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase broke out of a touchdown drought that lasted over two months by scoring twice on Sunday against the Arizona Cardinals.

Chase hauled in his first touchdown since Oct. 16 late in the second quarter of the Bengals' 37-14 win. He added another TD in the third.

He finished with seven receptions for 60 yards. Chase also became the first player to record at least 80 receptions, 1000 yards and seven touchdown receptions in his each of first five years in the NFL.

“I really wasn’t aware of (Chase’s touchdown drought) until Tee (Higgins) pointed it out in the last game, during the game,” Bengals coach Zac Taylor said. “We’re just going to go out there and call it the way we see it. The play he scored on is a play we’ve run 100 times. (Chase) did a great job making people miss and getting in the end zone, and then the other one before the half was a really good play design ... so that one worked out well.”

Chase's scoreless stretch included a game that he missed due to suspension after he spat on Pittsburgh Steelers cornerback Jalen Ramsey.

Chase said he was itching

to get into the end zone. He said that as he walked into the stadium on Sunday, he told himself he was going to make sure that he scored.

When he reached the end zone for the first time, he celebrated with an emphatic spike of the ball.

“I didn’t even know what celebration I wanted to do,” Chase said. “That’s how I know I haven’t been in there in a minute.”

The first touchdown was all effort and athleticism. Chase caught a bubble screen near the left sideline and there were multiple defenders in his way. With a juke, a spin move and a sprint, Chase reached the end zone.

“I think everything is just instincts in that moment,” he said.

On his second touchdown, the Bengals’ play design got him matched up against a cornerback who has spent a lot of the year on the Cardinals’ practice squad. Chase quickly created separation against Darren Hall and scored on a slant from 8 yards out.

For the second straight week, the Bengals’ offense seemingly couldn’t be stopped.

“That’s what we expected from the beginning of the season,” Chase said. “It didn’t go our way, but we know what we’re capable of, especially with the opportunities we put ourselves in. We just have to execute.”



David Campbell

Trimble County’s Silas Sandusky (5) defends the jumpshot of Rising Sun’s Derriance Pitts (3) during the Kentuckiana Shootout at Shawe on Friday.

KENTUCKY

FROM PAGE B1

Raiders travel to Pineville, Kentucky, to compete in the Boys Chain Rock Classic. Trimble faced host Pineville on Monday, takes on Jackson County Tuesday and finishes with Nicholas County Wednesday. The Raiders then host Eminence Saturday.

Carroll County, now 7-5 on the season, hosts Trinity Christian on Saturday. Shawe, now 3-8 on the season, returns to action on Friday, Jan. 9 when the Hilltoppers travel to Oldenburg Academy.

SOUTHWESTERN

FROM PAGE B1

County and 16 points and six assists in the win over Henryville.

Savannah Nussbaum had 15 points, nine rebounds and six steals in the win over Northeastern, nine points and three steals in the win over Crawford County, and 10 points, seven rebounds and five steals in the win over Henryville.

Against Northeastern, Rorie Scroggins had 14 points and seven rebounds for the Rebels and Baleigh McAfee had 11 points and four rebounds. Scroggins had six points and four rebounds in the win over Crawford, Sophie Ford and Josie Hubbard each had six points and Olivia Simpson had three points and seven assists. In the win over Henryville, Simpson had seven points and five rebounds.

Southwestern's current seven-game win streak is the Rebels' longest since the 2011-12 season. The Rebels return to action on Thursday, Jan. 8, when they travel to Austin.

REWARDS

FROM PAGE B1

that way of thinking to expecting to win. I expect this team to win every time they take the field, and I think that’s just a testament to the job Curt Cignetti has done.”

Not all fans have earned their stripes like Harrell and Murphy. The Indiana football bandwagon is filling up.

Memorial Stadium reached the brim with new followers this season. “Heis-Mendoza” chants on Saturdays become common this fall, and for the second straight year, all four home conference games sold out.

Airlines have adjusted

accordingly to the high demand. Delta, American and Southwest Airlines added additional nonstop flights from Indianapolis to Los Angeles in the days leading up to the Rose Bowl.

“People get excited because people like winners,” Murphy said. “(There are) not a tremendous amount of people like me that will go support their team win or lose, and I’ve seen a lot of losing football over the years.”

So now, 58 years later, Murphy finally gets the chance to make up for the missed game that has haunted him for decades.

“Fortunately for me, I get to go this year and actually sit in a seat and see the game,” Murphy said. “I’m still pinching



Obed Lamy/AP PHOTO

Bill Murphy sits on a bed and looks at memorabilia hanging on the wall in a room at his home in Greenfield, Ind., on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025.

myself, trying to make sure I’m not dreaming.”

Outfielder JJ Bleday agrees to a \$1.4 million, 1-year contract with the Cincinnati Reds

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Outfielder JJ Bleday and the Cincinnati Reds agreed Saturday to a \$1.4 million, one-year contract.

The 28-year-old hit .212 with 14 homers and 39 RBIs with the Athletics this year, down from a .243 average in 2024, when he set career bests with 20 homers and 60 RBIs for Oakland.

Also Saturday, Cincinnati acquired outfielder Dane Myers from Miami Marlins for minor league outfielder Ethan O'Donnell.

Selected fourth overall by Miami in the 2019 amateur draft, Bleday became a free agent last month when the A's designated him for assignment and failed to offer a 2026 contract. His contract was automatically renewed by the A's last March for \$770,000 while in the major leagues and had he remained on the team's 40-man roster he would have been eligible for salary arbitration for the first time.

Bleday was the A's opening-day center fielder in 2024 and '25. He has a .215 average with 49 homers and 142 RBIs in four seasons with the Marlins (2022) and A's.

In addition to his guaranteed salary, Bleday can earn additional performance bonuses.

Right-hander Keegan Thompson was designated



Nick Wass/AP photo

Athletics right fielder JJ Bleday (33) in action during a baseball game against the Washington Nationals, Wednesday, Aug. 6, in Washington.

for assignment to open a roster spot. He agreed last month to a one-year contract calling for \$1.3 million in the major leagues and \$350,000 in the minors.

The 29-year-old Myers hit .235 with six homers, 31 RBIs and 18 stolen bases this year.

He had a .245 average with 10 homers, 59 RBIs and 23 steals in three seasons with Miami.

O'Donnell, 23, batted .236 with seven homers, 56 RBIs and 20 stole bases this year for Double-A Chattanooga.

Cincinnati designated right-hander Lyon Richardson for assignment.



Duke Energy (1000 East Main Street, Plainfield, IN 46168) is submitting a Notice of Intent to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management of our intent to comply with the requirements of Construction Stormwater General Permit to discharge stormwater from construction activities associated with the State Route 256 over Lewis Creek Relocation Project located northeast of Blocher, Indiana and west of Kent, Indiana, within Jefferson County. Run-off from the Project will be in sheet flow to unnamed tributaries or surface drainage features, ultimately draining to Lewis Creek. Please direct questions to Kristin Clark with Duke Energy Group at 317-838-2024 or by email at Kristin.Clark@duke-energy.com.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
That on 1/26/26 at 10:00 a.m. a sale will be held at 11 E Village Dr (Park Office) Madison, IN 47250, for the sale of the mobile home located at: 356 W. Skyline Dr. #249 Madison, IN 47250 to sell the following articles to enforce a lien existing under the laws of the State of INDIANA against such articles for labor, services, skill or material expended upon a storage furnished for such articles at the request of the following designated persons, unless such articles are redeemed within thirty days of the publication of this notice.
Name: **CRYSTAL JEAN WHELAN**
Description: [Vin: NHP96736](mailto:Vin:NHP96736)
Year: 1996
Make: Glenmoor
Size: 16 x 76
Lien: \$784.00

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(812) 923-9823 & (812) 246-1500
www.indianalandcompany.com
LEXINGTON 15 ACRES OPEN/WOODS BIG CREEK UTILS AT ROAD \$149,900
MARYSVILLE 10 1/2 ACRES OPEN/WOODS SET UP FOR HOME GARAGE \$109,900
LEXINGTON 2+ ACRES OPEN FENCED SEPTIC APPROVED UTILS AT ROAD \$45,900
SCOTTSBURG 7 1/2 ACRES OPEN/WOODS CREEK & DRIVEWAY \$97,900
LEXINGTON 2 1/2 ACRES ALL WOODS HWY 356 UTILS AT THE ROAD \$49,900
BLOCHER 5 1/2 ACRES WOODS DRIVEWAY SEPTIC APPROVED JEFF. CO. \$79,900
LEXINGTON 4 1/2 ACRES WOODED ROLLING PRIVATE HORNER ROAD \$51,900
OTISCO 2 ACRES OPEN/WOODS PARTIAL SET UP FOR HOME \$51,900
LEXINGTON 3 1/2 ACRES ALL WOODS ON HARDY MILL ROAD \$39,900
LITTLE YORK 3+ ACRES WOODED PRIVATE SEPTIC APPROVED UTILS ROAD \$51,900



TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Indiana, in Cause No. 39C01-2406-MF-000510 wherein MidFirst Bank was Plaintiff, and The Unknown Heirs at Law of Deborah W. Dorten, Deceased, Patrick H. Dorten, Sherri L. Dorten DOC# 293843 a/k/a Sherri Dorten, LVNV Funding, LLC, Bank of America, N.A. and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 22nd day of January, 2026, at the hour of 10:00 A.M. or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 1150 JA Berry Lane, Madison, IN 47250, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jefferson County, Indiana.
Lot No. Fourteen (14), Mouser Plat to the Town of North Madison, (now City of Madison), Indiana, as recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 30, Recorder's Office of Jefferson county, Indiana. More commonly known as: 131 Mouser Street, Madison, IN 47250

Parcel No. : 39-08-27-114-004.000-007

Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

Ben Flint
Sheriff of Jefferson County
Madison Township
131 Mouser Street, Madison, IN 47250
Street Address
SHERIFF FILE NO:

The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street addressed published herein

Alan W. McEwan
24051-49
Doyle & Foutty, P.C.
41 E Washington Street
Suite 400
Indianapolis, IN 46204

SERVICE DIRECTED TO:

Patrick H. Dorten
131 Mouser St
Madison, IN 47250-2615
MANNER OF SERVICE: Sheriff

Sherri L. Dorten DOC# 293843 a/k/a Sherri Dorten, Dearborn County Community Corrections
215 W High Street #B
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
MANNER OF SERVICE: Certified Mail

Keith W. Lerch,
Minton-Capehart Federal Building
575 N. Pennsylvania Street,
Room 655
Indianapolis, IN 46204
MANNER OF SERVICE: Certified Mail

Occupant(s) of 131 Mouser Street, Madison, IN 47250
131 Mouser Street
Madison, IN 47250
MANNER OF SERVICE: Sheriff

NOTICE DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR



SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE JEFFERSON CIRCUIT COURT) SS: COUNTY OF JEFFERSON) CAUSE NO. 39C01-2505-MF-000517 LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. CAROL N. MANN, DARRELL LOCK JR., DISCOVER BANK C/O DISCOVER PRODUCTS INC. and ASHLEE DAILY, Defendants. NOTICE OF SUIT

The State of Indiana to the Defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned. You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is: Complaint on Note and to Foreclose Mortgage on Real Estate Against the property commonly known as 5269 S 450 W, Hanover, IN 47243-9092 and described as follows: BEING A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 3 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST, SALUDA TOWNSHIP, JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 36, SAID POINT BEING MARKED BY A 3-1/2 INCH BRASS DISC IN THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 450 WEST; THENCE WITH THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 450 WEST AND THE QUARTER SECTION LINE, NORTH 00 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 07 SECONDS WEST 1321.00 FEET TO A RAILROAD SPIKE AND THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE LEAVING THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 450 WEST AND THE QUARTER SECTION LINE NORTH 89 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 01 SECOND EAST 1165.00 FEET TO A 5/8 INCH REBAR; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 07 SECONDS EAST 187.00 FEET TO A 5/8 INCH REBAR; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 02 MINUTES 01 SECOND WEST 1165.00 FEET TO THE QUARTER SECTION LINE AND THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 450 WEST; THENCE WITH THE ABOVE MENTIONED QUARTER SECTION LINE AND COUNTY ROAD NORTH 00 DEGREES 23 MINUTES 07 SECONDS WEST 187.00 FEET TO THE TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING. CONTAINING 5.001 ACRES. This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named defendants: Darrell Lock Jr., Discover Bank c/o Discover Products Inc. and Ashlee Daily This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named defendant whose whereabouts are unknown: Carol N. Mann If you have a claim for relief against the plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer or response. You must answer the Complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit, and if you fail to do so a judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded, by the Plaintiff. FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. By /s/ Matthew S. Love MATTHEW S. LOVE Attorney No. 18762-29 Attorney for Plaintiff MATTHEW S. LOVE FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. 8415 Allison Pointe Blvd., Suite 400 Indianapolis, IN 46250 (317) 237-2727 NOTICE FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR.



Plan Commission Legal Notice

MEETING DATE: January 12, 2026 at 6:00 PM
MEETING PLACE: Madison City Hall, 101 W. Main Street Madison, IN 47250
STREAMING LINK: www.youtube.com/@City-ofMadisonIndianaGovernment
A. Roll Call
B. Approval of minutes
C. Election of Officers
D. Tabled of Applications
1. **SDVA-25-1:** Jim Pruett on behalf of D&W Realty Holdings LLC – Application for a Variance from Subdivision Standards to allow for a smaller right of way for a future road.
Location: 2629 N Michigan Rd; 4-88 Century Lane; and 200+ State Road 62
Zoned: GB-General Business(GB)
2. **PCGB-25-3 :** Jim Pruett on behalf of D&W Realty Holdings LLC – Application to establish setbacks for the multi-unit single family development within general business. Setbacks will be 5ft from the North, South, and East property lines. Setbacks will be 30.18 ft from the west property line. Should the development include a public road, setbacks will be 5ft from its right of way.
Location: 2629 Michigan Rd and Century Ln Properties
Zoned: General Business (GB)
E. New Applications
F. Public Hearing
1. Proposed UDO and Zoning Map
2. Rules and applications
3. Fee schedule
G. Adjournment
H. Next Meeting: February 9, 2026 at 5:30 PM
For the purpose of hearing oral comments concerning the listed applications, a public hearing will be held on January 12, 2026 at 6:00 PM in City Hall, 101 W. Main St., Madison, IN 47250. You are hereby advised that a copy of said proposal is on file for examination before the hearing in the Office of Planning, Preservation, & Design, 101 W. Main Street, Madison, IN 47250. Written objections to the proposal that are filed with the secretary of the commission before the hearing will be considered. The hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary.

BY ORDER OF THE MADISON CITY PLAN COMMISSION
Tony Steinhart, Deputy Mayor
Commission Members Appointing Authority Term of Appointment
Patrick Thevenow City Council 01/18/2024 - 12/31/2027
Joel Storm City Council 01/23/2024 - 12/31/2027
Josh Wilber City Council 01/23/2024 - 12/31/2027
Jerry Ralston Mayor 01/16/2024 - 12/31/2027
Van Crafton Mayor 01/16/2024 - 12/31/2026
Mike Armstrong Mayor 01/13/2025 - 12/31/2028
Karl Eaglin Mayor 12/19/2024 - 12/31/2028
Rick Farris County 03/06/2023 - 12/31/2026
Zac Laughlin County 03/06/2023 - 12/31/2026
City of Madison acknowledges its responsibility to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. In order to assist individuals with disabilities who require special services (i.e. sign interpretative services, alternative audio/visual devices, etc.) for participation in or access to City sponsored public programs, services and/or meetings, the City requests that individuals make requests for these services forty-eight (48) hours ahead of the scheduled program, service and/or meeting. To make arrangements, contact ADA Coordinator at 812-265-8300.

Advertise with us



LEGAL NOTICE

The Ryker's Ridge Water Company will elect four (4) members to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting on January 26, 2026. The meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. at the Ryker's Ridge Firehouse located at 2834 N Ryker's Ridge Rd., Madison, IN 47250. If you are interested in being a candidate for the board, please contact the company office at 812-273-1851 before 3:00 p.m. on January 20, 2025, and attend the annual meeting.



MDK # 25-004615 TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES SHERIFF'S SALE NOTICE By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Switzerland Circuit Court of Switzerland County, Indiana, in Cause No. 78C01-2503-MF-000103, wherein Nationalstar Mortgage LLC was Plaintiff, and Charles R. Smith were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on January 27, 2026, at the hour of 11:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as is possible, at the Sheriff's Office at 405 Liberty Street Vevay, IN 47043 the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Switzerland County, Indiana. A part of Section 13, Township 2 North, Range 2 West, located in York Township of Switzerland County, Indiana, described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 13, Township 2 North, Range 2 West; thence North 88 degrees 49 minutes 56 seconds East 1134.75 feet to an iron bar being the point of beginning; thence continuing North 88 degrees 49 minutes 56 seconds East 380.00 feet to a P. K. nail in the centerline of Scott's Ridge Road; thence along the centerline of said road the following two courses: South 03 degrees 52 minutes 11 seconds East 206.33 feet to a steel nail; South 13 degrees 09 minutes 08 seconds East 94.85 feet to a steel nail; thence South 68 degrees 33 minutes 40 seconds West 380.00 feet to an iron bar; thence North 08 degrees 21 minutes 58 seconds West 433.98 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 3.109 acres. Subject to the right-of-way of Scott's Ridge Road and all easements of record. ALSO: Subject to a twenty (20) foot wide easement for the purpose of ingress and egress, the centerline of which is described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 13, Township 2 North, Range 2 West; thence North 88 degrees 49 minutes 56 seconds East 1134.75 feet; thence South 08 degrees 21 minutes 58 seconds East 433.98 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 68 degrees 33 minutes 40 seconds East 380.00 feet to the point of termination. Description prepared by Gary L. McAllister, R. L. S. #S0399, dated July 26, 1993, and recorded in Survey Record 2, Page 335 thereof, in the Recorder's Office of Switzerland County, Indiana. EXCEPTING THEREFROM: A part of Section 13, Township 2 North, Range 2 West, located in York Township of Switzerland County, Indiana, described as follows: Beginning at the Northwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 13, Township 2 North, Range 2 West; thence North 88 degrees 49 minutes 56 seconds East 1134.75 feet to an iron pin found, the point of beginning; thence continuing North 88 degrees 49 minutes 56 seconds East 380.00 feet to a P. K. nail found in the centerline of Scott's Ridge Road; thence along said centerline South 03 degrees 52 minutes 11 seconds East 139.65 feet; thence South 88 degrees 49 minutes 56 seconds West 369.42 feet; thence North 08 degrees 10 minutes 48 seconds West 140.55 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 1.200 acres. Subject to the right-of-way of Scott's Ridge Road and all easements of record (according to a survey made by Gary L. McAllister, R. L. S. #S0399, dated August 11, 1995). Commonly known address: 10987 Scotts Ridge Road, Rising Sun, IN 47040 Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. Nicholas M. Smith MDK Legal P.O. Box 165028 Columbus OH 43216-5028 Telephone: 614-220-5611 Attorney for Plaintiff Brian Morton, Sheriff of Switzerland County Township: York Parcel No./ Tax Id #: 78-09-13-100-003.005-008 The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein.



Advertisement For Bids

The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners will receive sealed bids at the **Jefferson County Highway Department at 3135 Clifty Drive, Madison IN 47250, until 2:00 P.M.** local time on **January 22, 2026**, for various asphalt paving projects. The documents including specifications are on file for public inspection and may be procured for bidding purposes at the JEFFERSON COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 3135 Clifty Drive Madison Indiana 47250.

Bids received after the specified date and time shall be returned unopened. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at **5:00 P.M.** local time on **January 22, 2026**, at the **Troy D Morgan Public Safety Center 620 Green Road Madison Indiana 47250**. No bidder may withdraw their proposal for a period of sixty (60) days after the date of opening. Bids will be opened on live recording via Jefferson County Government YouTube channel. Bids shall be submitted on forms prescribed by the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners, which may be obtained from the Jefferson County Highway Department. Each bid item shall be marked to correspond with this legal notice and shall be submitted separately. Each bid shall be accompanied by a surety bond or certified check in a sum equal to ten percent (10%) of the total bid. Each bidder shall fill out a non-collusion affidavit as part of their proposal.

The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any informalities in the bids.

Board of Commissioners Highway Superintendent Ron Lee Jason Copeland Bobby Little Dave Bramer



Board of Zoning Appeals Legal Notice

MEETING DATE: January 12, 2026, at 5:30 PM
MEETING PLACE: Madison City Hall-Council Chambers
STREAMING LINK: www.youtube.com/@City-ofMadisonIndianaGovernment
A. Roll Call
B. Approval of Minutes
C. Election of Officers
D. Renewals
1. **BZCU-23-103:** Susan Smith – Conditional Use Permit Renewal for a swap meet/temporary event at 2355 N K Rd. Zoned: RA 1 Year Renewal
2. **BZCU-23-100:** Hrezo Engineering – Conditional Use Permit Renewal for an Engineering office at 448 Meadow Lane
Zoned: R-8 2 Year Renewal
E. Tabled Applications
1. **BZCU-25-23:** Chuck Moore on behalf of Bowlin Communications, LLC and State of Indiana –Conditional Use Permit to install a small cell utility pole under category 476 Relay Towers & Transmitting Stations (TV, Radio and Telephone).
Location: 3149 + CLIFTY DR (39-08-31-000-022.001-006)
Zoned: Light Manufacturing (M-1)
F. New Applications
1. **BZVD-25-16:** Delbert Reece – Variance from Development Standards for setbacks to build a new shed on the existing pad.
Location: 2747 LANIER DR
Zoned: Residential Medium Density (R-8)
G. New Business.
H. Motion to adjourn
I. Next meeting: February 9, 2026

For the purpose of hearing those for or against said applications, a public hearing will be held on January 12, 2026, at 5:30 PM in City Hall, 101 W. Main Street Madison, IN 47250. You are hereby advised that a copy of said proposal is on file for the examination before the hearing in the Office of Planning, Preservation, & Design, 101 W. Main Street, Madison, IN 47250. Written objections to the proposal that are filed with the secretary of the commission before the hearing will be considered. The hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary. BY ORDER OF THE MADISON CITY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Tony Steinhart, Deputy Mayor

Board Members Appointing Authority Term of Appointment

Rick Farris Council 01/09/2023 - 12/31/2026
Scott Baldwin Mayor 01/06/2023 - 12/31/2026
Karl Eaglin Plan Commission/ Mayor 08/28/2023 - 12/31/2028
Nancy Burkhardt Council 01/13/2025 - 12/31/2028
City of Madison acknowledges its responsibility to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. In order to assist individuals with disabilities who require special services (i.e. sign interpretative services, alternative audio/visual devices, etc.) for participation in or access to City sponsored public programs, services and/or meetings, the City requests that individuals make requests for these services forty-eight (48) hours ahead of the scheduled program, service and/or meeting. To make arrangements, contact ADA Coordinator at 812-265-8300.

Heat run away in 4th quarter and beat Pacers 142-116 to hand Indiana its 8th straight loss

BY TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

MIAMI — Andrew Wiggins and Jaime Jaquez Jr. each scored 28 points, and the Miami Heat ran away in the fourth quarter to beat the Indiana Pacers 142-116 on Saturday night.

Norman Powell scored 23 for the Heat, who won for the second consecutive night. Miami outscored Indiana 44-22 in the final quarter, after leading 98-94 going into the last 12 minutes.

Miami had 83 points in the second half, and had a 60-23 edge in bench scoring.

Nikola Jovic scored 19 for

Miami, with the Heat outscoring Indiana by 35 points in his 25 minutes. The Heat scored at least 140 points for the sixth time this season and seventh time in 2025, after reaching 140 points seven times — combined — from 1988 through 2024.

Indiana's Aaron Nesmith returned after missing 19 games with a shoulder injury. He scored nine points in 19 minutes.

"He has worked extremely hard to get back to this point," Pacers coach Rick Carlisle said. "And so now we've got to navigate this thing the right way."

The Heat were again without Tyler Herro (toe) and Bam

Adebayo (back). Both are progressing, Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. Herro has been limited to six games this season and has missed nine of Miami's last 10 — while Adebayo has missed the last two, with nagging things that were turning into bigger issues.

"He really needed this time ... he's dealing with some (things) because of overcompensation," Spoelstra said of Adebayo. "I think he's feeling a lot better each day."

UP NEXT

Pacers: Visit the Houston Rockets on Monday.

Heat: Host the Denver Nuggets on Monday.



Miami Heat forward Jaime Jaquez Jr. (11) drives to the basket as Indiana Pacers guard Aaron Nesmith, right, defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Dec. 27, in Miami.

Lynne Sladky/
AP photo

Carlisle to step down, Bickerstaff to become National Basketball Coaches Association president

BY KEN POWTAK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — Indiana Pacers coach Rick Carlisle will be stepping down as president of the National Basketball Coaches Association at the end of the month and Detroit coach J.B. Bickerstaff will replace him.

"I guess now might be a good time to announce, I decided about a year ago that this would be my last year," Carlisle said Monday night before the Pacers played in Boston. "This is my 20th year. My term will end at the end of this month. We've held our elections and the membership has made a tremendous and phenomenal choice to succeed me and that's going to be J.B. Bickerstaff."

The 66-year-old Carlisle is one win from the 1,000th of his coaching career.



AJ Mast/AP photo

Indiana Pacers head coach Rick Carlisle questions a call as his team plays the New York Knicks during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Indianapolis, Thursday, Dec. 18.

He spoke very highly of his soon-to-be replacement.

"J.B. is not only a trusted friend of mine and many, many coaches, he's proven to be a great leader," Carlisle

said. "He's had to take over difficult situations in his career: interim coaching positions etc., etc."

"The job he did in Cleveland, taking that team from the lottery to winning in the playoffs was phenomenal. The job he's done in Detroit the last year and a half speaks for itself. He's a great leader and passionate guy for coaches."

Bickerstaff, 46, started his coaching career with Charlotte as an assistant in 2004. He was an associate head coach with Memphis until becoming interim head coach on Nov. 27, 2017. He became the Grizzlies' head coach on May 1, 2018.

In February 2020, he was promoted to Cleveland's head coach after John Beilein resigned.

Bickerstaff was hired as Pistons coach on July 3, 2024.

"I congratulate J.B.," Carlisle said.

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3		7		8			6
	4	9		5		2	
		5					
				1	3		
	6						3
			9	8	7		
					3		
		3		9		5	2
7			2		4	6	
							9

SUDOKU

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

3			4	5				
	8		6			5		
9								3
	1					2		
		8		6		3		
4		9		1			8	
8								7
		2					6	
				7	2			1

SUDOKU

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

HOROSCOPE

DEC. 30

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today and tomorrow close out 2025 with underwater, below-zero Universal stars. Take no significant action, especially in a financial matter where emotions could be both tangled and running high.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You could feel grossly misunderstood but may not be able to correct anything until the stars shift into sunlight on Friday. Remember, people will always misunderstand when it serves them to misunderstand.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Self-work could hit a wall of ego for a few hours today, if you aren't making progress, come back to it. The things you 've been building in your life should be starting to come to harvest.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) A disagreement may not resolve today, the sector of friendship is clouded, and Universal stars are below ground, dragging many things down. Someone close could become a supportive partner.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) When someone is determined to double down and dig heels in there's not much to be done other than find a workaround or wait. Under this week's poor stars, waiting is likely the best strategy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Breaking out to have some fun, making art, or making music could be great uses of creative high spirits under stars that don't support serious moves anyway. You may as well enjoy the day.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) The focus likely remains on home and building a beautiful and functional charging station for the rest of your life. A friend might offer helpful advice. Any discussion of resources should wait for better stars.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Teamwork could be hit and miss, personal issues could come up and become detrimental to the joint effort. While you might have all the facts and figures ready to go, today's a poor day for audience receptivity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) No matter how clear you feel you are, don't make financial moves of any kind under below-zero stars. Next week offers much better odds of making a good decision and getting a successful outcome.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) A need to get free of restrictions might get blocked, you may need to defer the gratification for a day or so. Needed changes could be hard to make. Sit inside your self with confidence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) If your home world isn't providing the nurture and understanding you'd like, go within to your inner self. Make your own self your inner bestie, practice supporting and loving on yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Put a pin in your difficult conversation, least until next week. The likelihood of misunderstanding or a conversation at cross purposes is high. An easy flow with friends could feel just right.

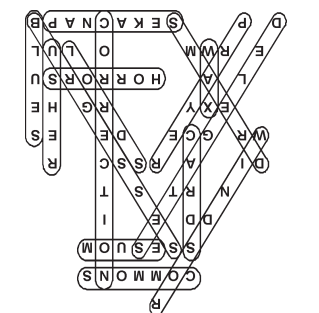
Sudoku solution

6	8	6	4	3	2	1	5	4	7
4	8	7	6	9	1	5	4	8	4
4	1	1	3	5	7	8	9	6	2
5	9	4	7	8	6	2	3	1	5
1	5	7	2	4	5	8	9	6	1
2	6	8	3	1	9	4	7	5	2
3	4	1	6	9	7	5	2	8	4
8	7	2	1	5	8	6	4	9	3
9	5	6	8	2	4	7	1	3	5

Jumble solution

BLUFF POOCH DECENT POLLEN
The dogs thought digging up the yard was a
HOLE LOT OF FUN

Sleuth solution



JUMBLE

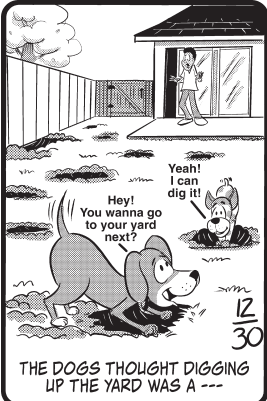
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

UFLBF
COPHO
TDNEEC
PNELOL

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“ ”

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

WORD SLEUTH

HOUSE OF

A	T	Q	O	L	I	G	R	D	B	Y	W	T	R	P
M	K	I	F	D	C	O	M	M	O	N	S	B	Y	W
U	S	Q	O	M	S	S	E	S	U	O	M	K	I	F
D	B	Z	X	D	D	S	E	W	U	I	S	Q	O	N
L	J	H	N	F	R	T	D	S	C	T	A	Y	W	V
T	D	I	S	O	A	Q	R	S	S	C	P	N	R	L
K	W	R	R	G	C	E	I	H	D	E	F	E	E	S
C	B	R	E	X	Y	Z	Y	W	V	R	G	U	H	E
S	I	L	R	A	Q	P	H	O	R	R	O	R	S	U
M	E	N	R	W	M	M	L	J	I	O	H	L	U	L
D	F	P	E	D	C	S	E	K	A	C	N	A	P	B

Monday's unlisted clue: BOILED

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: REFLECTIVE SURFACES

Blues	Correction	Lords	Usher
Burgesses	Delegates	Mouse	Wax
Cards	Dreams	Pancakes	Windsor
Commons	Horrors	Prayer	

SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Splendor
5 Clear the decks?
9 Gaiety
12 Beloved
13 Cab
14 Celestial altar
15 Sky-diving maneuvers
17 Trail the pack
18 Doomed
19 Bridge fees
21 Deduce
24 Eventful periods
25 Shed
26 Hiring manager's invitation
30 Gardner of film
31 Grand-mas, affectionately
32 Caustic solution
33 Feline comics villain

35 Law firm

- aide, for short
36 Wagers
37 Spud
38 Magna —
40 Bygone ruler
42 — Jima
43 Escaped
48 Totally fine
49 Actress Singer
50 Japanese noodle
51 Yucatan "Bravo!"
52 Revise
53 Sail support

DOWN

- 1 Adobe file format

2 Poetic contrac-

- tion
3 Astronaut Jemison
4 Car radio button
5 Base-ball's Musial
6 Pedestrian path
7 Rocker Rose
8 Casual eateries
9 Bombs, as a joke
10 Russia's — Mountains
11 Kvetches
16 Bear hair
20 Klutz

21 Apple

- desktop
22 PBS science show
23 Penniless
24 Abba of Israel
26 Toast toppings
27 Stop — dime
28 Literary Jane
29 Bring up
31 Signifi-cant
34 Drench
35 French fragrance
37 Inventor's mono-gram
38 Pisa farewell
39 Military no-show
40 Actress Spelling
41 "SNL" segment
44 Scepter
45 Vitamin stat
46 Dawn goddess
47 Sinusitis doc

Solution time: 22 mins.

S	T	A	S	T	E	D	I	T	O	M	W
N	O	D	E	S	E	R	E	D	E	N	O

Today's solution

HOROSCOPE

DEC. 31

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your reputation could be glossy, efforts made with talent and grace could have been noticed. Discretion is the better part of valor now. Be cautious if out for New Year's Eve, stars are dark and risks are higher than normal.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) A solution isn't an effective one if some of those directly concerned aren't being represented. Connecting with new people and places expands your world; wait for above-zero stars to get started.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Your ambitions could be on fire, your next steps could be clear. Be cautious today. Next week offers better opportunity days, much of January is in sunshine. It's a great month astrologically to start the new year.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Let go of all the things you 'should-a, would-a, or could-a' in terms of regret. If it was for you, it couldn't have passed you by. But drill down to every precious lesson — this is how you avoid repeating mistakes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Showing up to help with routine or messy tasks could put a crown on your head, your assistance could be that desperately needed. Bringing the right favor or support at the right time can make you royalty.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) There is so much artistic/creative energy for you today — talent, beauty, inspo, recognition of genius — no matter how simple or how elevated your artistry. Play it extra safe today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Some tension between change and holding a line could arise in a financial or shared situation. Wait for next week's better stars to handle this if possible, better stars mean better odds for positive outcomes.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) The stage is set for successful communication for your sign, but today's underwater stars make most things more difficult. If it's important and can wait a few days, next week's stars offer improved odds.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Everything could seem perfectly aligned on the face of it ... except it's not time to act unless you actually want to fail. Sit tight on making any financial decisions until next week at the earliest. Be cautious out there.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You might almost feel embarrassed at the praise that's possible now. Fortunately, the good vibes you've got should still be accessible next week, when Universal stars turn away from 'wait' and in the direction of 'go.'

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) This New Year's is riskier than usual, play it safer than usual. Your inner discipline should be good now, keeping your eye on the prime goals keeps you on point. Learn from the past, every mistake is gold.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Time with friends could be joyous now despite high-risk stars, a quiet celebration with your inner circle could feel better than being in all the noise. Root down into your deepest strengths.

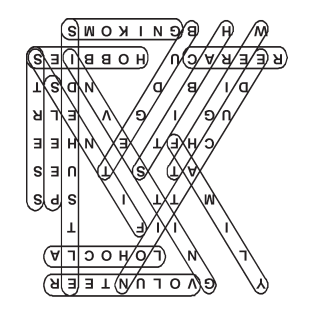
Sudoku solution

1	3	6	2	7	7	8	4	9	5
5	9	8	4	5	3	2	6	7	1
7	2	4	9	6	4	5	1	3	8
9	8	7	3	1	2	6	5	4	9
4	1	5	9	6	8	7	2	3	1
6	5	2	4	8	7	3	1	9	5
3	7	9	8	2	1	5	4	6	7
2	4	5	6	3	9	7	8	1	4
8	6	1	7	5	4	9	2	3	6

Jumble solution

TRUCK AGAIN YONDER UNEASY
below tradition — YEAR IN, YEAR OUT
DICK CLARK MADE THE TIMES SQUARE BALL DROP A

Sleuth solution



SHEFFER CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Pantheon member
4 Miles away
8 Brew topper
12 Before
13 Taboo
14 " — la Douce"
15 PBS funder
16 'Animal House' fete
18 Masked hero
20 French diarist Anaïs
21 Winter blanket
24 Brilliance
28 New Year's Eve topper
32 Apiece
33 Vegetable peeler brand
34 Pre-stereo records
36 "Rocks"
37 Reply to "Shall we?"
39 Beer bash
41 "The Waste Land" author

43 Fly like a hawk

- 44 San Francisco's — Hill
46 Leniency
50 Restaurant area for special events
55 Sashimi fish
56 Met melody
57 Top-of-the-line
58 Author Fleming
59 Little dent
60 Thunder god
61 Use a shovel

DOWN

- 1 Post-millennial demographic gp.

2 Twistable

- cookie
3 Beloved
4 Word of opposite meaning
5 Egg — young
6 "Life of Pi" director Lee
7 "Casual" singer Chappell
8 Spouse-to-be
9 Hockey's Bobby
10 Invoice fig.
11 Mother's Day month
17 Thanks-giving dessert
19 Trio after Q

22 "Hmm, I

- guess so"
23 Declines
25 Hideaway
26 Bank statement no.
27 Yon folks
28 North —
29 Skater's leap
30 South Asian flatbread
31 Takeout request
35 Annoying emailer
38 "In America" writer Susan
40 "How — you?"
42 Gift from Santa
45 Nanny's headache
47 Incursion
48 Spiced tea
49 Soprano — Huang
50 Knee protector
51 "Entourage" agent
52 — Tin Tin
53 "What a cute kitten!"
54 Musician Yoko

Solution time: 23 mins.

D	I	N	G	T	H	O	R	H	A	N	I	D
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
R	E	C	A	H	I	O	M	A	R	E	C	A
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P	A	R	I	A	V	O	N	E	M	A	I	A
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Tiger Woods turns 50. It's the one time golf's greats can relate to him

BY DOUG FERGUSON
AP GOLF WRITER

Talk to any golfer who played against Tiger Woods and there is sure to be at least one story about one shot so sublime they were certain it could not be hit by them or anyone else.

He was just different. Better. The 2-iron Woods hit into the par-5 10th hole at the TPC Sugarloaf led Stewart Cink to say, “This is a skill set I don’t have.” Padraig Harrington once saw Woods hit an 8-iron so majestic at Firestone that it got in his head and led to the Irishman making triple bogey.

Nick Price played the opening two rounds with Woods at St. Andrews in the 2000 British Open and felt the tournament already was over. Mark O’Meara played a practice round with him at Pebble Beach before the 2000 U.S. Open and told his wife before the championship started, “Tiger is going to win. And not only is he going to win, he’s going to blow away the field.” Woods won by 15.

For all those years, so many greats in the game could never relate to Woods. And now, finally, they can.

Not even Woods can beat time. He turns 50 on Tuesday.

It’s a milestone for anyone, but it’s different in golf because the sport can be played well after the age when athletes have long retired in other sports. Phil Mickelson won a major at 50. Jack Nicklaus made an early Sunday charge at the Masters when he was 58.

With Woods, it's complicated. He now is eligible for the 50-and-older PGA Tour Champions. He also has had more surgeries than the 15 majors he won. This is the first year he didn't play a single tournament, the result of a ruptured Achilles tendon in March and a seventh back surgery in September.

“I’m probably going to play 25 events on both tours and I think that should cover most of the year,



David J. Phillip/AP photo

Tiger Woods reacts as he wins the Masters golf tournament, Sunday, April 14, 2019, in Augusta, Ga.

right?” Woods quipped in the Bahamas when asked about turning 50.

He won the U.S. Open just eight days before reconstructive surgery on his left knee. He won the Masters two years after surgery to fuse his lower back. But he hasn't been the same since that 2021 car crash in Los Angeles. Woods has played 11 times the last five seasons, finished only four of those tournaments and hasn't been closer than 16 shots to the winner.

“Come back to what point?” Woods said. “I’d like to come back to just playing golf again.”

And so this celebration is more about looking back than forward. Ernie Els was most prescient in 2000 at Kapalua when he was on the losing end again — no one finished second to Woods more than the Big Easy. They matched eagles on the 18th in regulation, birdies on the 18th in a playoff and Woods got him with a 40-foot birdie putt on the second extra hole. Vintage Tiger.

“I think he’s a legend in the making,” Els said that day. “He’s

24. He’s probably going to be bigger than Elvis when he gets into his 40s.”

That's up for debate, of course. Undeniable is the impact Woods has left on golf.

Popularity soared and prize money skyrocketed. Woods made golf look different and he made it cool. And perhaps his greatest legacy is he unwittingly trained a generation of players who wanted to be like him. Scottie Scheffler said nothing inspired him more than watching the intensity of Woods when he was out of contention at the 2020 Masters. Woods made a 10 on the 12th hole and followed with five birdies over his last six holes. He tied for 38th.

“Tiger was just different in the way he approached each shot. It was like the last shot he was ever going to hit,” Scheffler said. It was the only time they played together. Scheffler now is coming up on three years at No. 1 in the world, the longest stretch since Woods. But it started with that skill set unlike any other.

“He's the only guy I've ever

known who continually exceeded expectations,” Tom Lehman said. “No matter how much you heaped on him, he found a way to exceed them.”

Lehman recalls one moment at the Memorial on the 17th hole, a green so rock-hard it felt impossible to get it close. Lehman hit 5-iron as high and far as he could and was pleased to see it roll out 25 feet from the cup.

“He hits this shot way up in the air and it was coming down like a parachute,” Lehman said. “Lands by the cup and bounces 2 feet and stops. I figure he must have hit a 7-iron. I said, ‘Tiger, what club was that?’ He said, ‘That was a little, three-finger 5-iron.’ He just filleted it in there.

“When I think of him, that's what I think of. Only one guy could hit that shot. And he did it often.”

Woods had the career Grand Slam at age 24, the youngest of anyone. He had 50 wins worldwide and 10 majors before he turned 30.

It wasn't as easy as he could make it look. The late Dan Jenkins

once said when Woods was in peak form, “Only two things can stop Tiger — injury or a bad marriage.” Turns out it was both. His path was derailed at the end of 2009 by revelations of multiple extramarital affairs, and the injuries kept piling up. He still made it back to No. 1 in the world in 2013 and he ran his PGA Tour victory count to 82, tied with Sam Snead.

“If he never got injured, he’d have 25 majors and 125 wins,” Fred Couples said.

Matt Kuchar said it differently. He felt the injuries contributed to the legend of Woods, particularly that 2008 U.S. Open win at Torrey Pines.

Woods was playing that week on shredded ligaments in his left knee and two stress fractures in his left leg. Often overlooked is that Woods had not walked 18 holes since the Masters until the opening round at Torrey Pines.

“The legacy is bigger because of the injuries,” Kuchar said. “What he did at Torrey Pines, what he did at the (2019) Masters is sort of Hoganesque. At some point I, like most everybody, counted him out. And then he wins again.”

Woods is keeping plenty busy outside the ropes. He was appointed to the PGA Tour policy board without a term limit in 2023 as the tour was in the midst of its battle with Saudi-funded LIV Golf. He now heads up the Future Competition Committee charged with reshaping the tour model.

The next question is when — and where — he plays. Woods is the only player to have won the U.S. Junior Amateur, U.S. Amateur and U.S. Open. The U.S. Senior Open is at Scioto, the Ohio course where Jack Nicklaus learned to play.

April at Augusta isn't the same without Woods. He set the Masters record in 2024 by making the cut for the 24th consecutive time. How much more? How much longer?

“People want to see him,” Kuchar said. “And if he shoots 76, people still want to see him. He's unique in our sport.”

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